

# THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVII.—NEW SERIES, No. 589.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11, 1857.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED 5d.  
STAMPED ... 6d.

## ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—

New Lecture by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on "OPTICAL ILLUSIONS," with very curious experiments, every Tuesday at Three, and Wednesday, and Friday, at Three and Eight.

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Admission to the whole, 1s.; Children and Schools, half-price.

## DEVONSHIRE-SQUARE CHAPEL,

BISHOPSGATE-STREET.—The Rev. J. H. HINTON'S

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SUBJECT—CHRISTIANITY DEVELOPED IN DOMESTIC

RELATIONS.

On SUNDAY EVENING NEXT, Feb. 15, at Half-past Six.

## YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION in aid

of the BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The FOURTH of a SERIES of LECTURES, in Course of Delivery at the MISSION HOUSE, 33, MOORGATE-STREET, on the Second Friday Evening in each Month, will be delivered by the Rev. JOHN STOUTON, on FRIDAY EVENING, February 13, 1857.

SUBJECT—THE VERIFICATION OF SCRIPTURE IN HUMAN HISTORY AND EXPERIENCE.

Sir S. MORTON PETO, Bart., will preside

Chair to be taken at Half-past Seven. Admission free.

JOHN TEMPLETON, Secretary.

## RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DINNER, at the

LONDON TAVERN, WEDNESDAY, February 18, 1857.

CHAIRMAN—JOHN REMINGTON MILLS, Esq.

VICE-CHAIRMAN—S. MORLEY, Esq.; A. ANDERSON, Esq.

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Sir James Anderson, M.P.  
James Bell, Esq., M.P.  
Thomas Barnes, Esq., M.P.  
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E. Griwade, Esq., Ipswich.  
J. M. Hare, Esq., London.  
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E. Rumney, Esq., Manchester.  
James Spicer, Esq., Manchester.  
J. Sidebottom, Esq., Manchester.  
Edward Swaine, Esq., London.  
John Templeton, Esq., London.  
Henry O. Wills, Esq., Bristol.  
Edward C. Whitehurst, Esq., London.  
Thos. Waterman, Esq., Bristol.

\* Tickets, One Guinea each. Applications, which should be forwarded immediately, may be addressed to Mr. J. Carvell Williams, 2, Serjeant's-inn, Fleet-street, London (E.C.)

## TO the MEMBERS of the BRITISH EMPIRE

MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—In accordance with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, we, the undersigned Directors, retire by rotation at the next Annual Meeting, and offer ourselves for re-election. We respectfully solicit a continuance of the confidence you have reposed in us during the ten years of the Company's existence; and beg to assure you of our firm adhesion to the principles upon which the Company was founded,—which have tended so eminently to promote its unexampled prosperity under the management of those who formed and succeeded in establishing it, and who have hitherto conducted its affairs so beneficially for the interest of the members.

The present prosperous state of the Company will be best shown by the following facts: A constituency of about 7,000 members, an Annual Income of 50,000l., and an accumulated fund of over 100,000l.

Should any member be unable to attend the meeting, we shall be happy to send Proxy papers for signatures.

We are, Ladies and Gentlemen, yours very faithfully,

CHARLES BENNETT.

PETER BUNNELL.

J. R. BURTON.

R. CARTWRIGHT.

32, New Bridge-street, 4th February, 1857.

N.B.—The ANNUAL MEETING, at which the ELECTION takes place, will be held at the LONDON COFFEE HOUSE, on TUESDAY, the 24th of February instant, at Three o'clock, when your attendance and that of your friends is earnestly requested.

## TESTIMONIAL PURSE of 100 GUINEAS.

The Rev. JAMES MIRAMS adopts this mode of expressing to the several contributors to the above, his deep felt obligation for so substantial and valuable a proof of their regard as also for the numerous assurances of personal esteem, and desire for the welfare of himself and family accompanying their donations. Mr. Mirams expects to embark for Melbourne, Port Phillip, by the "Norfolk," from London, 11th March next, and will be happy to correspond with any parties desirous of becoming fellow-passengers.

Address, up to 20th inst., 14, Banks-town, Sheerness.

## VACANT CHAPELS.—A YOUNG MAN,

intending to enter the Ministry, will be happy to CONDUCT, UNREEMUNERATED, steadily or occasionally, a Sunday Service in the vicinity of London, where there is a Congregation without a Minister.

Address to W. M. C. N., 20, Stockwell-park-road, Stockwell (S.)

## WANTED, at the beginning of March, a

YOUNG LADY as MILLINER.

Apply, stating particulars, to F. G. Rutbra, Laceman, &c., Argyle-street, Birkenhead.

## WANTED, a JUNIOR ASSISTANT.

None need apply who are not thoroughly acquainted with the SMALLWARE and HABERDASHERY DEPARTMENTS, and who cannot give unexceptionable references.

Address, G. Vicars and Co., 87, 88, and 90, Queen-street, Hull.

## TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, on or before

the 1st March, a YOUNG PERSON as MILLINER, who thoroughly understands her business, and has a knowledge of the Counter Trade.

Apply, with full particulars, G. Osborn, Amersham, Bucks.

## TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—Mr.

J. T. NOTCUTT, Bookseller, Printer, and Stationer, Northampton, has a VACANCY for a well-educated YOUTH as an APPRENTICE. He would be treated as one of the family, and have every opportunity of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the business.

## TO IRONMONGERS' ASSISTANTS.—

WANTED IMMEDIATELY, a steady and respectable YOUNG MAN, with a good knowledge of the business. A member of an Independent Church preferred.

Apply to C. Wallis, Bridport, Dorset.

## TO IRONMONGERS' ASSISTANTS.—

WANTED, an experienced YOUNG MAN of good abilities and indisputable character, to SUPERINTEND the SHOP of a FURNISHING and GENERAL IRONMONGER near London, to undertake the Bookkeeping, and generally to assist in the oversight and management of the business. The manufacturing department, in which several men are employed, is chiefly under the direction of the foreman, but some knowledge of the Smithing, Brazier, and Zinc Work would be desirable to assist in making estimates, &c. A single young man, to board and lodge with the family, and a member of the Society of Friends, if he could be met with, would be preferred.

Apply, by letter only, addressed J. G. care of Messrs. Duke and Waring, No. 95, Wardour-street, London (W.)

## THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER LEAGUE

COMPANY (Limited).—AGENTS are WANTED in all parts of the Kingdom to promote the interests of this Company. One thousand Shareholders are already enrolled, and 27,000l. of stock subscribed. Ministers and intelligent laymen, who are actively engaged in works of Christian benevolence, will find this Agency consistent and compatible with their other pursuits. No risks.

Applications (with references), to be made to the Secretary, 35, Ludgate-hill, London (E.C.)

## THE NONCONFORMIST at HALF PRICE.

An English Congregational Minister in the United States wishes to secure the above paper (stamped copy) on the above terms, two days after publication.

Address, post paid, J. H. I., Lowndes-terrace, Knights-bridge, London (S.W.)

## TO PUPIL TEACHERS.—WANTED, in

a School, a YOUNG MAN, as an ASSISTANT, who has served his Apprenticeship in a British or National School.

Apply to Z., Post-office, Thame, Oxon.

## ORIENTAL and BIBLICAL LANGUAGES.

The Rev. G. SMALL gives INSTRUCTION in Hindustani, Sanscrit, Persian, and Bengali, as also in Hebrew, and the Rudiments of Arabic and Syriac, at his Class Room, 3, Leadenhall-street; or at private residences and scholastic establishments in London and vicinity.

For terms, testimonials, &c., address, 1, St. John's Grove, Croydon; or as above.

## GRAMMAR SCHOOL, ST. JOHN'S

WOOD.—Principal, Mr. T. GROSVENOR, L.C.P.—This Establishment is designed to afford the Educational advantage of the Public Schools, but free from the evils so commonly attending them. The intellectual powers of the pupils are developed by being brought into constant and healthful exercise; while their moral and religious culture is watched over with ceaseless solicitude. In the Domestic arrangements, the comfort and happiness of the pupils are systematically consulted. Prospectuses will be forwarded on application to Mr. Grosvenor, Albion-road, St. John's-wood.

## EDUCATION, LONDON.—Parents seek-

ing superior intellectual cultivation for their daughters, combined with earnest prayerful effort for their spiritual progress, may be supplied with a prospectus stating terms, which are moderate, with a list of first-class Masters in attendance, and with references of the most satisfactory character, by applying to H. V., Post-office, Ladbroke Grove, Notting-hill, London. In addition to the daily careful schoolroom training, the Sabbath teachings of one of the most earnest Evangelical Ministers in London is enjoyed—a Minister whose efforts have for many years been peculiarly blessed and useful to the young.

## GROVE HOUSE ACADEMY, BRILL,

BUCKS.

FIVE YOUTHS now at this Establishment will enter upon Commercial Life at Lady-day. There will therefore be that number of VACANCIES.

The worth of the School is shown by its unparalleled success, and the happiness and progress of the Pupils, as well as their aptitude for, and success in, business pursuits.

TERMS.

The Preparatory School, Eighteen Guineas per annum. The Upper School, Twenty Guineas per annum.

This sum includes all those items generally charged as extras, requisites, &c., &c.

The following are some of the advantages of this Establishment: Sound teaching, constant oversight, absence of corporal punishment, parental kindness, unlimited supply of the best provisions, spacious and lofty rooms, and healthy locality.

If desired, the Pupils are allowed to write to their parents without being required to show their letters to their teachers. No better guarantee for proper treatment can be given.

Parents may obtain a pamphlet containing the fullest particulars by applying to the Principal, Mr. W. C. CLARK, Grove House, Brill, Bucks.

## THE CAMBRIAN and UNIVERSAL LIFE

and FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. Capital, 100,000l. Established 1849.

OFFICE, 27, GRESHAM-STREET.

Agencies in the principal towns of England and Wales. This office offers the benefit of assurance in all its branches, and is highly eligible for every description of life assurance.

A new and most important feature entirely originating with this Company, viz., Marriage Dowries, Life Assurance, and Deferred Annuities, included in one policy.

Rates of premium moderate. Annuities granted. Family endowments. Loans on personal and other securities.

Forms of proposal and every information may be obtained on application By order,

ALFRED MELHADO, Manager.

## PERPETUAL INVESTMENT, LAND,

and BUILDING SOCIETY.

CHIEF OFFICE—37, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.

## INVESTMENT SHARES ISSUED FROM 10l. to 100l.

A 100l. share requires the payments of 10s. monthly for 124 years, or of 20s. for 74 years. The whole of the profits belong to the Shareholders, and will be received by them in addition to the amount of share.

Shares subscribed in full bear interest at Five per cent., payable on the 30th of April and October.

All money paid upon shares can at any time be withdrawn, upon notice.

DEPOSITS received daily to any amount, at from Four to Five per cent. interest, returnable at one week's notice.

LOANS.—The Directors are prepared at once to advance money, in large or small sums, on mortgage upon houses and land, repayable by instalments during one to fifteen years.

The sum of 355,000l. has been received by this Society, since May, 1851, thus showing the confidence of the public in the principles of the Institution.

A copy of the last Annual Report, with Prospectus, will be sent upon receipt of One Postage Stamp.

JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER, Secretary.

Agents wanted where none are appointed.

## BRITISH EQUITABLE INVESTMENT

COMPANY.

Incorporated under 19 and 20 Vic., cap. 47.

CAPITAL—ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS.

CHIEF OFFICE—47, KING WILLIAM-ST. LONDON-BRIDGE

METROPOLITAN DIRECTORS.

GEORGE THOS. DALE, Esq., Commercial-road.

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JABEZ FIELD, Esq., Park-road, Old Kent-road.

WILLIAM GOVER, Esq., Lee-park, Kent.

WILLIAM SUTTON GOVER, Esq., King William-street.

JOHN SMITHEE, Esq., Wellesborough-square.

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E.S.S., F.I.A., 47, King William-street, City.

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JOHN LEE BENHAM, Esq., Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square.

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1. This is the only Building Society incorporated under Act of Parliament, and possessing a Permanent Guaranteed Fund of 100,000l., thus offering a solidity of security not found elsewhere.

2. Subscription Investment (that is, Building Society Shares under another name) granted; 10s. a month secure 100l. besides profits at the end of 124 years, probably making the amount 1200l., or half the amount, besides profits, at the end of 74 years.

3. Deposits of any amount received at interest, payable half-yearly.

Important districts are still unrepresented by Agents. Agents possessing fact wanted. They can take the agency of one of the Modern Life Offices—the British Equitable Assurance Company



**SIX PER CENT. INTEREST.—DEBENTURES** bearing Six per Cent. Interest are now ready to be issued for sums of 20l. and upwards; interest payable half-yearly.  
Life Assurance Treasury Incorporated, and Deposit, Discount, and Assurance Bank. The Earl of DEVON, Chairman.  
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### NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL LIFE ASSURANCE AND GENERAL ADVANCE AND DEPOSIT COMPANY.

Incorporated under 7 and 8 Vic., c. 110.  
CAPITAL, 100,000l., in Ten Thousand Shares of 10l. each.  
22, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.  
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CUTHBERTSON, F. Esq., Aldersgate-street, Vice-Chairman.  
BURGESS, JOSEPH, Esq., Keene's-row, Walworth.  
GARDINER, B. WEBB, Esq., Princes-street, Cavendish-square.  
GOVER JOHN, Esq., Eagle-cottage, New Kent-road.  
GROSER, WILLIAM, Esq., Hemingford-villas, Islington.  
LINDSEY, MARK, Esq., 264, Borough; and Camberwell.  
MANN, JOHN, Esq., Charterhouse-square.  
PRATT, DANIEL, Esq., Cuckfield; and Bolt-court.  
SILVESTER, H. R. Esq., 18 and 19, Dover-road.  
TOWNSEND, H. M., Esq., 75, Newington-causeway.

**AUDITORS.**  
FREEMAN, GEORGE S., Esq., George-street, Camberwell.  
WILLS, JOHN, Esq., Doctors'-commons, and Reigate.

**BANKERS.**  
THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, Princes-street.

**SOLICITORS.**  
Messrs. WATSON and SONS, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street.

**SECRETARY.—SAMUEL GREEN.**

FOUR THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED and NINETY THREE Shares in this Company have been already issued, making the Share Capital at present subscribed, 43,930l. The Company has also received upon Deposit, 26,985l. 13s. 4d.

ADVANCES made to Borrowers during the year ending September 30 last, amounted to 23,282l. 18s. 5d.

The Income has enabled the Directors to declare DIVIDENDS of SIX PER CENT. PER ANNUM on the paid-up SHARE CAPITAL—a rate of Dividend which they have every reason to believe will be maintained. The DIVIDENDS are paid in JANUARY and JULY.

Applications for the remaining Shares may be made to the Secretary, Samuel Green, Esq., at the Office of the Company.  
By order, SAMUEL GREEN.

### BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

22, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.

Incorporated 1847, under Act 7 and 8 Vic., c. cx., and further Empowered by Special Act 15 Vic., c. llii.

ACCUMULATED FUND, 100,000l.

**DIRECTORS.**  
JOHN GOVER, Esq., Chairman.  
ROBERT J. MILLAR, Esq., Vice-Chairman.

Bennett, Charles, Esq.  
Bunnell, Peter, Esq.  
Burton, John Robert, Esq.  
Cartwright, Richard, Esq.  
Gardiner, B. Webb, Esq.  
Groser, William, Esq.  
Lewis, George Cyrus, Esq.  
Pratt, Daniel, Esq.  
Sanders, Joseph, Esq.

**AUDITORS.**  
Burge, George William, Esq. | Porter, Joseph Long, Esq.

**BANKERS.**  
UNION BANK OF LONDON, TEMPLE-BAR.

**SURGEON.—JOHN MANN, Esq.**

**SURVEYOR.—THOMAS TURNER, Esq.**

**SOLICITORS.—Messrs. WATSON and SONS.**

**RESULTS OF TEN YEARS' BUSINESS.**

8,910 Policies issued, insuring 1,787,305l.; annual income, 50,000l.; profits divided, 28,000l.

Pure Mutuality without personal liability.

All the Profits belong to the Members, and are divided Triennially.

Profits paid in Cash, added to the Assurance, or Premiums Reduced, at option.

Advances granted to Members on their Policies to the extent of their Office value.

Invalid Lives Assured at equitable rates.

Funds employed in Advances to Members on adequate security.

Policies granted on the Half Credit System.

All Members entitled to Vote at the Annual Meetings of the Company.

JAMES INGLIS, Secretary.

### IMPERIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, 1, OLD BROAD-STREET, LONDON.

Instituted 1820.

T. GEORGE BARCLAY, Esq., Chairman.

MARTIN T. SMITH, Esq., M.P., Deputy-Chairman.

One-third of the Premium on Insurances of 500l. and upwards, for the whole term of life, may remain as a debt upon the Policy, to be paid off at convenience; or the Directors will lend sums of 50l. and upwards, on the security of Policies effected with this Company, for the whole term of life, when they have acquired an adequate value.

Four-fifths, or Eighty per cent., of the Profits are assigned to Policies every fifth year, and may be applied to increase the sum insured, to an immediate payment in cash, or to the reduction and ultimate extinction of future Premiums.

At the fifth appropriation of profits for the five years terminating January 31, 1856, a reversionary bonus was declared of 1l. 10s. per cent. on the sums insured, and subsisting additions for every premium paid during the five years. This bonus, on policies of the longest duration, exceeds 3l. 5s. per cent. per annum on the original sums insured, and increases a policy of 1,000l. to 1,624l.

Proposals for Insurances may be made at the Chief Office, as above; at the Branch Office, 16, Pall-mall, London; or to any of the Agents throughout the kingdom.

#### BONUS TABLE.

SHOWING THE ADDITIONS MADE TO POLICIES OF 1,000l. EACH.

Date of Insurance.	Amount of Additions to Feb. 1, 1851.	Addition made as on Feb. 1, 1856.	Sum Payable after Death.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1820 .....	523 16 0	114 5 0	1638 1 0
1825 .....	382 14 0	103 14 0	1486 8 0
1830 .....	241 12 0	93 2 0	1334 14 0
1835 .....	185 3 0	88 17 0	1274 0 0
1840 .....	128 15 0	84 13 0	1213 8 0
1845 .....	65 15 0	79 18 0	1145 13 0
1850 .....	10 0 0	75 15 0	1085 15 0
1855 .....	—	15 0 0	1015 0 0

And for intermediate years in proportion.

The next appropriation will be made in 1861.

Insurances, without participation in Profits, may be effected at reduced rates.

SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

### NATIONAL SAVINGS' BANK ASSOCIATION (Limited), 50, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY.

Open daily, Ten to Four; also Tuesdays and Saturdays, Six to Eight. Interest on Deposits 3½ per cent.

**TRUSTEES.**  
HENRY HALL DARE, Esq., 90, Ebury-street.

FREDERIC DOULTON, Esq., Lambeth, and Manor House, Dulwich Common.

JOHN WILLIAM WILLIAMSON, Esq., 8, Serle-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

**RESIDENT DIRECTOR.—J. BEAUMONT HAWKINS, B.A.**

### LIFE ASSURANCE AGENCY.—The Directors of the ACHILLES INSURANCE COMPANY are prepared to receive applications from respectable parties for Agencies in towns where they are not represented. For particulars, apply to the Secretary at the Chief Office.

H. B. TAPLIN, Secretary.

25, Cannon-street, City.

### ANNUITIES.—Annuities, Immediate and Deferred, are granted by the Directors of the ACHILLES INSURANCE COMPANY, to parties of every age, on equitable terms. The following are illustrations of the Rates:—

Amount of Immediate Annuity granted for every 100l. paid to the Company:—

Age.	£ s. d.
30 .....	5 18 8
40 .....	6 12 8
50 .....	7 11 5
60 .....	10 7 0

The general advantages offered by this Company will be seen on an investigation of its Rates of Premium. It offers to the Assured the security of a large subscribed capital, combined with all the advantages of a Mutual Assurance Office—Eighty per cent. of the Profits being divided among the Policyholders every five years.

The RATES OF PREMIUM, which have been calculated by the Consulting Actuary, are based upon the latest and most approved corrected Tables of Mortality, and will, therefore, be found lower than those adopted by other and earlier institutions.

**DIRECTORS.**  
EDWARD MIALI, Esq., M.P., Chairman.

Col. Lothian S. Dickson. J. Bishop Culpepper, Esq.

Adolphus Baker, Esq. Henry Francis Home, Esq.

R. S. Ashton, Esq. James Toleman, Esq.

Thos. Houghton Burrett, Esq.

**BANKERS.—COMMERCIAL BANK OF LONDON.**

**STANDING COUNSEL.**  
ROBERT PORRETT COLLIER, Esq., Q.C., M.P.

**SOLICITORS.**  
Messrs. SHEARD and BAKER, 3, Cloak-lane, City.

**CONSULTING ACTUARY.—JENKIN JONES, Esq., F.I.A.**

**MANCHESTER.**

**DIRECTORS.**  
JAMES WATTS, Esq., Mayor of Manchester, Chairman.

R. Shorrocks Ashton, Esq., J.P. Thomas Roberts, Esq.

William Jenkinson, Esq. Robert Ramsey, Esq.

William Martin, Esq. J. Wood, Esq. (Wood & Wright.)

William Woodward, Esq.

**LOCAL SECRETARY.—JOHN KINGSLEY, Esq.**

**OFFICES.—11, DUCIE-PLACE (opposite the Exchange).**

**BIRMINGHAM.**

**LOCAL SECRETARY.**  
DAVID MALINS, Jun., Esq., 34, Colmore-row.

Forms of Proposal, Rates of Premium, and any other particulars, can be obtained of the Agents of the Company, and at the Chief Office, 25, Cannon-street, London.

H. B. TAPLIN, Secretary.

### £10,000 READY to be ADVANCED, in sums of 50l. and upwards, upon the Security of Freehold, Copyhold, and Leasehold Property.

Apply, between the hours of nine and five, to Mr. J. E. Tre-sidder, 37, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

### MONEY ADVANCES.

**PARTIES residing in Town or Country**

seeking Advances of Money for long or short periods, from 30l. to 800l., on Personal or other Security, returnable by Monthly or Quarterly Instalments, may apply to Mr. A. CANNEN, 32, Acton-street, Gray's Inn-road, London. A sum of 80l. advanced, returnable in five years, by monthly instalments of 1l. 7s. Responsible persons may rely upon advances being made. Larger amounts in proportion, and for shorter periods. Private offices. Established 1846.

### IMMEDIATE CASH ADVANCES.

**SUMS from 10l. to 300l. ADVANCED on PERSONAL SECURITY.** Repayable within Two years by Weekly, Monthly, or Quarterly Instalments; and Good Bills Discounted. Charges moderate, and strict confidence observed. Ministers specially treated with.

**LONDON and PROVINCIAL LOAN COMPANY.** Office, 69, Goswell-road, London. Open daily from Nine till Six, thus avoiding inconvenience or publicity. Forms of application and prospectus gratis, on receipt of stamped envelope.

ESTABLISHED 1838.

Registered pursuant to 58 s. 7 and 8 Vic., c. 110.

### MONEY LENT for Two Years, One Year, or Six Months, on Personal Security, freehold or leasehold property, gold and silver plate, watches, jewellery, and every description of available security. Repayable by weekly, monthly, or quarterly instalments.

SUMS from 5l. to 500l. may be obtained three days after application.

This Office being open daily, from Nine to Six, the unpleasant necessity of applicants having to explain their affairs before a large number of persons is entirely avoided.

**FINSBURY LOAN OFFICE, 144, St. John-street-road, Clerkwell (three doors from Myddleton-street).**

### TO LADIES.—AVOID TIGHT LACING, AND TRY WILLIAM CARTER'S

Elastic Double Coutil Winter Bodices . . . 4 11 and 9 6

Patent Front Fastening Stays . . . 9 " 12 6

Self-Lacing Expanding Corsets . . . 10 6 " 14 6

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### A GLANCE AT THE CHURCH-RATE RETURNS.

THE Church-rate question has met Parliament at the very threshold of the session, in the shape of two bulky volumes of "Returns," moved for by Lord Robert Cecil and Sir Wm. Clay—by the former in July, 1855, and by the latter as far back as August, 1854. Lord Robert's object was to ascertain the parishes in "cities or parliamentary boroughs, in which, during the last fifteen years, Church-rates have been refused, and since their refusal have ceased to be collected." Sir William wished to learn how much had been raised and expended from Easter, 1853, to Easter, 1854, distinguishing the sums received from other sources than Church-rates, and the amount expended on the repairs of the fabric, and also the sums borrowed on the security of the rates. His motion also included places where no rates had been made, it being required to be stated, in such cases, "whether opposition has been the cause thereof."

Neither honourable member has succeeded in obtaining exactly what he asked for; and both may complain of the labour which will be entailed on the public in seeking to get at general results, in the form of summaries, without which such masses of information as are here supplied are comparatively useless. Lord Robert Cecil limited his motion to cities and boroughs, and to cases in which rates have been refused; but the return includes the whole kingdom, and parishes which have made, as well as those which have refused them. Sir William, on the other hand, has not acquired much information respecting refusals, and, in many instances, the amounts expended on repairs are not specifically set forth. This return, however, is by far the most valuable, and, when the two are carefully collated, we expect that one will throw light on the other, and that both will supply serviceable materials to the anti-rate party in carrying on parochial warfare.

We observe that the Church journals have already seized upon the return of Lord Robert Cecil, as amply justifying the bold assertions by which they have been wont to resist the demand for Church-rate abolition. It shows, quoth the *Record*, in a tone of triumph, that "in the vast majority of cases the Church-rate is made and collected annually, without even a whisper of disapprobation;" and that "in nineteen-twentieths of the parishes of England, the very idea of opposition is still unknown." It will now be seen, writes the *Morning Herald*, that "the recusant parishes are few, and that the contented parishes are many;" and selecting a single county, it gives "the mighty result," and asks, "whether any reasonable man would say that Church-rates must be given up, merely because in seven cases out of 110 the Dissenters have succeeded in defeating a rate?"

Well! we allow that on the face of the return there is some ground for such exultation. A Church-rate man may be expected to rub his hands as, under the head of "Whether Church-rates have been refused," he reads "No," and

"Never refused," in line after line, the uniformity being agreeably disturbed by such replies as "All very willing to pay;" "Never been refused in the memory of man;" "Always allowed cheerfully;" culminating in the prophetic assurance, "Never refused and never will be!" Indeed, if we did not know better than to trust to this return, and especially to a cursory examination of it, we ourselves should incline to yield to the impression that Church-rate contests are but myths, that Sir W. Clay has been hoaxed, and the Liberation Society been making "much ado about nothing;" and that, in fact, what we have been denouncing as an intolerable exaction, is objected to by only a few singular beings, in parishes as scarce as plums in a schoolboy's pudding, the rest of the community deeming the payment of a Church-rate as one of the felicities of their lives!

Now as a hard-swearing witness who proves too much, is worse than one who proves nothing, so this elaborate attempt at "making things pleasant" will fail to effect its purpose, as stating, or suggesting, what is notoriously untrue, and as suppressing still more which it is ridiculous to affect to deny or to conceal. The truth is, that this return is, as a whole, untrustworthy and utterly delusive. Lord Robert Cecil's motion was loosely framed, and allowed ample scope for that spirit of partizanship which was likely to animate the churchwardens, to whom, in thousands of cases, the inquiries were addressed. It asked just enough for his lordship's purpose, but omitted to ask what was essentially necessary to enable the public to ascertain the exact state of the case, in any given parish, or in the parishes in the aggregate. And journals like the *Record* and *Herald* are simple enough, or think their readers are, to believe that this return will put the Anti-rate party to the rout!

Let it be observed that the enquiry made was, not whether rates had been *opposed*, but whether they had been *refused*. To this the simple reply "No" could be given in every case in which there had not been a majority against a rate. One effect of this has been that the occurrence of Church-rate contests has been ignored, except where the rate has been defeated, or where information on the subject has been volunteered. There may have been opposition, growing year by year, until both parties are nearly equally divided, tumultuous vestry meetings, polling and rioting, bullying and beer-drinking; but if a majority of one has been secured for a rate, the churchwarden of Pipe-cum-Lyde, or Pudleston and Whyte, writes his complacent negative in the columns of Lord Robert Cecil's return, and we are to believe that the inhabitants feel pride and pleasure in unbuttoning their pockets for the maintenance of the Church!

In this there is a practical folly which probably did not present itself to the mind of Lord Robert Cecil. Our own sources of information enable us to assert positively, that not only have rates been refused in many parishes which are not mentioned in the return, but that in other parishes rates have been refused, though the contrary of that fact is asserted in the return! Is this attributable to mistake, or to wilful falsification? To neither—as we in charity believe, but to the fact, that these refusals have taken place since the churchwardens made their return. But the same thing may have happened in many more parishes than we have the means of enumerating, and, in any case, it is certain that every year an increasing number of the parishes which are stated never to have refused rates will refuse them nevertheless. The return ignores the fact, that, in hundreds of places, the opposition is constantly growing, so that success is only a question of time. Yet, in other cases, where the parties choose to be communicative, we get some statements most suggestive of the ultimate fall of the whole system. "Not refused, but great difficulty in obtaining them;"—"still collected, but the feeling is strong against them;"—"opposition increasing every year;"—who can doubt that such descriptions are applicable to numbers of the parishes against which we have placed a simple "No," or "Never,"

and that before long the rates will disappear, as they have done elsewhere?

The return is, for the most part, silent on another point of importance. It says little or nothing of rates which, while not "refused," have been made illegally, and on that ground have therefore been either altogether abandoned, or only partially enforced. In one case it is acknowledged that while "no rate has ever been refused to be granted in vestry, there are numbers of the inhabitants who refuse to pay them; and when ever the churchwardens have endeavoured to recover by law, they have always been beaten by the refusers." And in another, it is stated, that "there has been some hundreds of pounds spent in litigation on both sides, a deal more sometimes than would have kept both churches in repair." Are these representative, rather than peculiar, cases? We know it to be otherwise; but we should not have learned so much from the return.

Again, there are an increasing number of parishes where, though a legal rate may have been made, the authorities refrain from pressing it, or where it is agreed in vestry that Dissenters shall not be called upon to pay. "Carried of late years with great difficulty against the powerful opposition of the Dissenters, and this year made voluntary, and is therefore partial," is the state of things existing in many more places than that in connexion with which the statement appears in the return. We have a list of some of them before us, but, on referring to this reticent return, we find several of them mentioned as having simply not refused a rate!

Finally, this inscrutable document includes among the parishes which have not refused rates those in which they have not been asked for; and in which a voluntary subscription has obviated the necessity for doing so! One (Welsh) churchwarden says, pithily, "None asked—no chance;" and two others declined "disturbing the harmony of the parish" on the strength of the Government pledge to settle the question; but these are exceptionally candid cases, and, in the absence of other information, no adequate conception would be formed of the extent to which Church-rate law is falling into desuetude, from a general conviction that the Church loses more than she gains from the enforcement of her legal claims.

Without, therefore, professing to have mastered the contents of Lord Robert Cecil's blue-book, we have discovered enough to justify the opinion with the expression of which we set out, that, in respect to a large portion of its contents, it cannot with safety be relied on by either party, and that, as an effort to bolster up a failing cause, it is too transparently fallacious to deceive those who have any practical acquaintance with the subject. Woe betide, therefore, any Liberal member who may be seduced by it into the belief that the pressure from without is, after all, less than he had supposed, and that indifference to Sir W. Clay's Bill will be followed by no danger; and worse woe to the Church of England if its friends are led to think that the idea of abandoning Church-rates may now itself be abandoned, as the offspring of a groundless panic.

We have not left ourselves space for further comment on the return of Sir W. Clay, which requires distinct consideration. It may be properly discussed in connexion with the bill, leave for the introduction of which is to be asked to-morrow.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY SOIREE AT STIRLING.—A social tea meeting of the friends of religious liberty residing in Stirling and neighbourhood, was held in the large public room of Campbell's Royal Hotel, on the evening of Friday, the 3rd ult., when about 130 ladies and gentlemen were present. The meeting was called specially for the purpose of hearing the statements of the Rev. E. S. Pryce, of London, the deputy from the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control. On the motion of David Yellowlees, Esq., vice-president of the Stirling Voluntary Association, the Rev. John Steedman was called to the chair. The chairman, in introducing Mr. Pryce to the meeting, said: He was opposed to State patronage of religion, for the sake of the patrons



themselves, who were as much out of their proper sphere in controlling the Church as a Presbyterian Presbytery would be if they sat in council at the Horse Guards or the Admiralty, and controlled the appointments, equipments, and movements of the army or navy. The Rev. E. S. Bryce, B.A., in a long, eloquent, and interesting speech, gave an outline of the operations of the Religious Liberation Society during the past year. For the benefit of those present who might not be fully acquainted with the nature and objects of the society he represented, he briefly sketched its origin, nature, objects, and modes of action. He alluded more particularly to its efforts both in and out of Parliament, in connexion with the abolition of Church-rates in England, and the impartial disendowment of all religious bodies in Ireland; showing how rapidly and how materially the operations of the society were telling in favour of both these measures, in spite of the unwearied and determined efforts of the Government to thwart them, and to prevent their being discussed in Parliament. He anticipated for both these measures increased support in Parliament, and an ultimate and even speedy triumph, if the friends of religious liberty in the Established and Dissenting communities remained true to their principles, and determined earnestly and consistently to carry them out. Mr. Pryce, who spoke for about an hour, was listened to throughout with the most intense interest on the part of the audience, and frequently interrupted by enthusiastic applause. The meeting was afterwards briefly addressed by J. S. Muschet, Esq., of Birkhill, Rev. James Culress, Mr. Yellowes, Mr. Christie, and Mr. Pattison, who, on behalf of the acting committee of the Stirling Voluntary Association, urged the claims of the Religious Liberation Society on their continued exertions and liberality. He hoped they would be able to send a respectable sum from Stirling to the Society in London. Thanks having been unanimously voted to the committee for their efficient arrangements, and to the chairman for his conduct in the chair, the proceedings terminated.

**CHURCH-RATE SEIZURE AT BEXLEY-HEATH, KENT.**—On Tuesday morning, Jan. 20, a broker's appraiser and man, as agents of the churchwardens of the parish of Bexley, entered the dwelling-house of the Rev. C. H. Hosken, Baptist minister, and seized all the books and furniture in his study, for Church-rates made in the years 1854-55, and by him refused as unjust. The man continued in possession until Monday, Jan. 26, when the following goods were sold by public auction: One rosewood lute-table-cover, one mahogany two-flap dining-table, six mahogany horsehair-seated chairs, a Brussels carpet, a set of fire-irons, and a parlour fender; the amount of the rate being 17. 0s. 8d. The room was well filled by the friends and neighbours of Mr. Hosken, and when the sum for which the goods were run up by the appraiser reached 31. 8s., he stopped the sale, stating that it was sufficient to cover his expenses. A gentleman present immediately proposed that a public collection should be made to defray the same; which was done, and in five minutes the sum was raised, every one in the room cheerfully contributing. It is worthy of remark that scarcely a Churchman was present, except by their worthy representatives, the broker's appraiser, &c.

**THE CHURCH SOCIETY AND THE ROYAL LETTER.**—At the last meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, a letter was read from the Secretary of State, upon declining to recommend the issue of a Royal Letter. The Standing Committee were of opinion that it was inadvisable to apply for Episcopal Letters, and that the society should throw itself on the sympathy of the Church; and this resolution was approved by the board.

**THE FREE CHURCH SUSTENTATION FUND** for the eight months from 15th May, 1856, to 15th Jan., 1857, amounts to 68,146l. 19s., while for the same period of the previous year it amounted to 67,613l. 16s. 4d., being an increase of 533l. 2s. 8d. [Of course there are congregational contributions to ministers independent of the Fund.]

### Religious Intelligence.

**BELPER.**—On Tuesday evening, Jan. 20, at a meeting held in the Congregational Chapel, Belper, occasioned by the resignation of the pastorate by the Rev. John Whewell, an address and purse were presented by the chairman, Thomas Harrison, Esq., on behalf of the Church and congregation. After an appropriate reply from Mr. Whewell, the meeting was addressed by several members of the Congregational and of other denominations. All the speakers concurred in expressing their high approbation of Mr. Whewell's character as a Christian, his Catholicity, talent, and consecration as a minister. The Rev. J. Leighton, of Heanor, and Robert A. Tarlton, of Derby, expressed their high estimate of Mr. Whewell, and the loss which they believed the country will sustain by his removal. Mr. Whewell's resignation was occasioned by a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of Ebenezer Chapel, West Bromwich, rendered vacant by the removal of the Rev. W. Cuthbertson to Sydney, New South Wales, as successor to the Rev. Dr. Ross.

**GLOUCESTER.**—THE COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON'S SCHOOLS.—The above Sunday-schools are about the oldest in the kingdom. For forty-six years annual sermons in their behalf have been preached in the month of January. The last anniversary was held on Sunday, the 25th ult., when three excellent sermons were preached in the morning and afternoon by the Rev. W. G. Lewis, of Cheltenham; and in the evening by the Rev. Thomas Haynes, late of Bristol. Notwithstanding the very unfavourable weather, the congregation in the evening was crowded, and upwards of 18l. have been realised for the

schools. On Monday evening, Jan. 26th, upwards of two hundred persons, including teachers and friends, took tea together; the Rev. T. Roberts presided. The Rev. A. Morton Brown, LL.D., of Cheltenham, and the Rev. D. J. Evans, of Stroud, gave admirable addresses on specially given subjects. The Revs. L. J. Wake, of Cheltenham, and J. Hyatt, and W. Collings, of Gloucester, also addressed the meeting.

**HALIFAX.**—PROPOSED NEW COLLEGE.—The liberality of the Messrs. Crossley, of this town, seems to know no bounds. This week, John Crossley, Esq., has commenced preparations for erecting a college, which, when completed, is to vie with the schools at Harrow and Rugby, and other equally celebrated scholastic establishments. The site of the new college is on the westerly side of Skircoat Moor, Mr. Crossley having succeeded in purchasing the plot of ground which had once over been sold to the Government for the purpose of erecting militia barracks. We have not seen the plans nor the architectural elevation, but we understand the college will be a massive building with a large spire and four small towers, and from its elevated position will form a grand object for observation for many miles round. When completed there will be ample accommodation for 130 pupils, and nine resident masters, with the principal. The large dining hall will be on the south side of the college, and from its windows a most extended view of the neighbouring hills will be obtained. The school-room is on the opposite side of the college, and both rooms are to be perfect gems. Commodious class-rooms, baths, lavatories, museum, and library are to occupy the ground floor, all of which will be communicated with by a spacious corridor lighted from the roof. The dormitories are to be spacious and airy, and the bedrooms of the masters are so disposed that each of them will communicate with the sleeping apartments of the pupils. Each master is to have a study and a separate suite of apartments, and we believe it is the intention of Mr. Crossley to provide ample accommodation in a distinct part of the college for the residence of twelve young gentlemen who may not have enjoyed the advantage of early education, but who may be desirous to complete their studies under such superior advantages as will be offered them by the college regulations. The college (which is to cost 20,000l.) is to be erected at the sole expense of John Crossley, Esq. This munificent and princely gift to the town and neighbourhood cannot be too highly estimated. The works are to be pushed forward with the utmost rapidity, and it is anticipated that the college will be opened in about two years from the present time.—*Halifax Guardian*. [According to the *Manchester Examiner*, the college is intended, primarily, for the education of the sons of Congregational ministers and missionaries, like the school of Colcoates-house, near Wakefield, which will probably be merged into it.]

**NEW COLLEGE.**—It is stated that the Rev. John Stoughton, of Kensington, has been offered the Presidency of this College, in the room of the late Dr. Harris, but has declined to accept that office.

**THE LONDON CITY MISSION.**—The City Mission has wiped away from London the reproach which lay on it in 1838, when 50,000 families were destitute of the Holy Scriptures. As nearly as can be, these families are now supplied. The respective numbers of seven-day and six-day cabs are undergoing a favourable change, and last year there was an increase of 381 in the latter class, and a happy decrease of 37 in the former. During the last twelve months 1,159 couples, previously living unlawfully together, have been persuaded to enter into holy wedlock. Within the same period 11,564 children have been sent into Sunday and daily schools, and no fewer than 5,869 communicants added to Christian churches by the same instrumentality.—*Christian Times*.

### Correspondence.

#### THE LATE MEETING OF THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.  
SIR,—I dare say that you have often been unable to recognise your own ideas when some reporter has abbreviated a speech of yours, has transferred it to the third person, and has made about three inches of talk of it for a daily or weekly paper.

Some of us have experienced this infelicity in the reports of our speeches at the Congregational Union. I could not gather the aim of my own words from more than one of them. It reminded me of looking for the image of the Sovereign in a chipped and chiselled half-penny. One mistake in your report I shall feel obliged if you will allow me to correct. I said, that I thought the late editor of the *British Banner*, in assuming to be theological critic and censor among us, had wholly mistaken his mission. Your report makes me say exactly the opposite by inserting a "not" before the think. I am sorry that I could not get time to send this for your last number.

I remain, yours affectionately,  
Sheffield, Feb. 6, 1857. HENRY BATCHELOR.

#### THE REV. T. BINNEY.

[We have been requested to give insertion to the following letters:—]

No. I.  
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.  
Gentlemen,—We beg leave to request your attention to the following correspondence.

H. BATEMAN.  
S. MORLEY.

No. II.  
TO THE REV. T. BINNEY.  
London, Jan. 26, 1857.  
Dear Sir,—We perceive that you have announced, by advertisement, your intention to publish "A Letter to

the Rev. John Kelly, Chairman of the Conference which met at the Milton Club, on the 23rd Sept. last."

This letter, we conclude, can only relate to the arbitration, then proposed and accepted, between yourself and Dr. Campbell.

We think it is evident that when you advertised this intention you had not seen Dr. Campbell's account of the meetings of the Congregational Union, held last week.

We have no other right to interfere with your proposal, than what arises from the supposition, that in appointing us, as you did, your friends arranged for the proposed arbitration, you intended to submit our judgment. On this ground alone, we now venture to request that you will not persevere in your intention to publish as announced; our very decided opinion being, that after the manner in which you were treated by Dr. Campbell in the matter of arbitration, and the style (which we are unwilling to characterise) in which, as a public journalist he has dealt with the Union meetings above referred to, you owe it to yourself as a gentleman, to retire at once and altogether from further notice of the so-called "Controversy," as between yourself and Dr. Campbell.

Whether, in the month of May, you should lay before the members of the Union, and your friends, a full statement of the case, is a consideration that, we think, may be postponed; if it be done, we shall be ready to bear our public testimony to the promptness of your decisions, and the entire frankness and transparency of your conduct, in the whole matter of the attempted arbitration, which claim, and have, our hearty approval.

In the meantime, we respectfully advise that you should not publish the proposed "Letter to Mr. Kelly."

We are, dear Sir, yours very sincerely,  
H. BATEMAN.  
S. MORLEY.

#### No. III.

Walworth, Feb. 9, 1857.  
My dear Friends,—I was not prepared to reply to your communication till towards the close of last week, and I have since been prevented by pressing duties. I felt it right to address a letter to the committee of the Union for their meeting on Tuesday last. I received their reply on Thursday. These two documents completed the series which was to have constituted the substance of my letter to the Rev. J. Kelly, as Chairman of the Conference, and, through him, to those who composed it.

I still think that something is due to those gentlemen, and that they, perhaps, owe something to themselves.

I have such entire confidence, however, in your judgment, and am so much obliged to you for the great, though fruitless trouble you have had, that I yield my own opinion, and fall in with your suggestion. So far as I am concerned, therefore, the matter may rest where it is; I give up all thought of the publication to which you refer.

I am, my dear friends, yours very truly,  
H. Bateman, Esq. T. BINNEY.  
Samuel Morley, Esq.

#### CONVOCAION OF THE CLERGY.

The Convocation of the Bishops and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury met on Wednesday, in the Jerusalem Chamber. In the Upper House, where the Archbishop of Canterbury presided, there were the Bishop of Winchester, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of St. David's, the Bishop of Oxford, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, the Bishop of Chichester, the Bishop of Exeter, the Bishop of Llandaff, and the Bishop of Salisbury. The chief subject here discussed arose on a petition presented by the Bishop of Chichester calling attention to the "indiscriminate use" of the burial service in cases where persons have died unbaptized, excommunicate, or by their own hands. The Bishop of Oxford was almost sure that the bishop has power to protect a clergyman who refuses to read the burial service over such as die manifestly in the commission of deadly sin. In one case, a clergyman in his diocese who refused to read the burial service was threatened with legal proceedings; but they were stayed when it was known that the clergyman had acted under the directions of his diocesan. Other bishops expressed similar opinions. The Archbishop of Canterbury said that he felt the difficulty of the remedy is greater than the difficulty of the evil, but he was sure that the clergy would derive satisfaction from the statements of his reverend brethren.

The Bishop of Exeter had a petition to present from a large body of clergy and laity, on the subject of Ditcher and Denison. The memorialists expressed their fears that the judgment pronounced in Archbishop Denison's case was fraught with danger to the Church, and could not withhold their remonstrances. He certainly should not recommend that it should be taken into consideration at present. At the same time the memorialists had treated their lordships with great calmness and respect. The Archbishop of Canterbury said, if the matter was pressed, their lordships would be obliged to say whether they would receive it or not, and that would be placing them in a dilemma. The memorial was not received.

From a conversation that afterwards took place, it appeared that in various dioceses of England persons were officiating as clergymen not being in orders, and although precautions had been taken to restrain them, they still continued their self-assumed ministrations. Many suggestions were made to meet the evil.

Their lordships then suspended their sitting until the Lower House should be prepared with any message or communication.

In the Lower House, owing to the absence of the Prolocutor, Dr. Elliott, Dean of Bristol, presided. There was a very large number of proctors present. Several petitions were presented, one by the Rev. F. Vincent, from the diocese of Chichester, complaining of having to read the burial service over persons who died in impenitence and sin; by the Rev. J. H. Cox, from the Rev. Thomas Ker, Rector of



Great Sandford, complaining that the Bishop of Oxford had illegally interfered in the election of a Proctor, and had threatened to turn the petitioner out of the room, and had twice sent for a policeman; several on the question of Church-rates.

The Rev. Canon WORDSWORTH gave notice of a motion respecting the extension of missionary efforts at home and abroad; the Rev. J. FENDALL, praying that the ornaments to be henceforth retained in the church, and by the ministers thereof, ought to be prescribed; the Rev. Canon SELWYN, on the question of the revision of the Scriptures, requesting that a body of learned men, well skilled in the original language of the Holy Scriptures, might be appointed to consider the amendments of the authorised version, as had already been proposed, and to receive suggestions from all persons who might be willing to give them. Archdeacon DENISON gave notice of the following amendment to the Rev. Canon Selwyn's motion:—

That it is not expedient that this House give any encouragement to a revision of the authorised version, whether by way of insertion in the text, marginal note, or otherwise.

The Rev. Canon WORDSWORTH also gave notice of a motion on the same subject, to the effect that it was not desirable to countenance any efforts to make changes in the text of the authorised version, and that any alteration that might be made should be confined to the margin.

The Rev. G. HILLS, canon of Norwich, moved, and the Archdeacon of NORFOLK seconded, the following resolution:—

That the question of Church-rates being one of urgent importance at the present moment, the Lower House humbly submit to their Lordships that the conference suggested to their Lordships by the committee of gravamina and approved by their Lordships, be not long deferred.

The motion was carried.

Archdeacon RANDALL moved, that in all questions of doctrine or ritual the final appeal should be to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; that the Privy Council should refer a statement of the doctrine or ritual in dispute to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who, having assembled the Archbishops and Bishops of England and taken their opinion, should transmit it to the Judicial Committee for a final decision. Professor SELWYN moved an amendment, making, in effect, the Synod of the province the court of appeal. This was negatived without a division. Chancellor MARTIN proposed, that whether in conjunction with the Privy Council or not, the Court of final Appeal should consist of two Archbishops, three Bishops, the Regius and Margaret Professors of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the Divinity Professors of Dublin and Durham, the Lord Chancellor, the Master of the Rolls, and five Ecclesiastical and Civil Judges, being members of the Church of England. Negatived by 35 to 14.

On Thursday, the meeting of the Upper House was of a merely formal character, and was immediately adjourned by the Most Reverend President till Friday morning, when it meets for the disposal of business.

In the Lower House, on Thursday, the debate on the formation of a Court of Appeal in matters of doctrine, was resumed. Archdeacon DENISON moved an amendment to the effect that the House had no suggestions to make other than those already before the Upper House. This was negatived by 24 to 21. But Archdeacon HARRISON then moved and carried a similar amendment, stating that the House would "earnestly commend to the consideration of the Upper House the principles embodied in the report already presented to their Lordships, as those which in the judgment of this House are to be carefully kept in view with regard to the subject of appeal."

The Rev. Canon SEYMOUR submitted a motion intended to secure "the counsel and co-operation of the faithful laity in the proceedings of Convocation." Archdeacon DENISON objected on a point of order, but the Prolocutor ruled otherwise. He thought they had a perfect right to address the Crown upon any subject which they had not been forbidden to do. Canon SEYMOUR assumed that the synodal action of the Church was an ordinance of God, and recognised in the 15th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. He apprehended, if his proposition were carried, Parliament would no longer be able to look with suspicion at every act of the Convocation, because it would know that every such act would be endorsed by a sufficient portion of the people to give assurance that nothing would be done injuriously to affect the laity in their rights and liberties. Then came the objection that it would endanger the union between Church and State. There was a time when the State was in danger because the Church was led on by a foreign bishop, and usurped the privileges and power of the State; but he apprehended if there were any danger now it lay quite another way, and the fear was lest the State should usurp the power and the privileges of the Church. The Hon. and Rev. S. BEST seconded the motion; but further discussion was cut short by adjournment.

In the Upper House, on Friday, the resolutions passed by the Lower House, on the expediency of making fresh exertions for sustaining and extending the missionary efforts of the Church, both at home and in foreign parts, was considered. The Bishops of OXFORD, EXETER, and WINCHESTER spoke at considerable length on the subject; and ultimately a resolution was agreed to, admitting the necessity of increased exertions for sustaining and extending the missionary efforts of the Church both at home and in foreign parts; and stating that, as the best mode of action in the address presented by the Lower House, this House has appointed a committee to meet from time to time and consider the great subject to which their attention has been drawn, and to report upon it hereafter, and that the Lower House is desired to appoint a committee of their own body to consider separately the same matter, and to attend, when desired, upon the com-

mittee of this House, and communicate with it. The Prolocutor was then summoned, and after receiving the document he retired. After an absence of a quarter of an hour the Prolocutor returned with the committee, and the names having been received their lordships adjourned.

In the Lower House, the debate on the admission of the laity into Ecclesiastical Synods was resumed, and carried forward for a long time. Canon WOODGATE moved, and Archdeacon DENISON seconded, a motion to the effect that the question should not be entertained until "effectual means are taken to determine what constitutes a *bond fide* member of the Church of England." Chancellor MARTIN then moved the "previous question;" and after still further debate, it was carried by 29 to 11. Shortly afterwards, the Archbishop of CANTERBURY formally adjourned both Houses until the 26th June.

The *Morning Star* reports a striking incident in connexion with the meeting of the Lower House on this day:—

While the members of the Lower House were at prayers, and while some of the proctors who were late were shut out, according to the practice of the assemblies in "another place," a tall venerable looking gentleman, having all the appearance of a distinguished ecclesiastic, entered the lobby and inquired whether the Jerusalem Chamber was on these occasions, open to the public. He was informed by Mr. Burrows, the courteous hall-keeper, that he could be admitted on obtaining an order from a member, whereupon the Archdeacon of Bristol, who is well known to be one of the leaders of the High Church party, stepped forward, and blandly informed the distinguished stranger that he should be happy to introduce him. The two gentlemen entered into an animated and friendly conversation, and when prayers were over and the doors thrown open, Archdeacon Thorp politely introduced his new friend, of whose name he was ignorant. The stranger was Mr. Binney, one of the foremost men amongst the Dissenters. Mr. Binney remained during a considerable portion of the day, and seemed to take a lively interest in the proceedings.

#### THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE REFORM OF EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENTS.

(From the *Manchester Examiner*.)

The annual meeting of the members of this association was held in the Manchester Town Hall, on Wednesday, at noon. Amongst the gentlemen present were James Heywood, Esq., M.P., the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, the Rev. R. B. Aspland, M.A., the Rev. J. P. Ham, the Rev. H. H. Jones, Dr. Ashton, Professor Frankland, F.R.S., Professor Hall, M.A., Messrs. M. Schunk, Thomas Clegg, A. Ferris, Thomas Baker, &c. The Rev. Dr. Vaughan was elected to preside, and Professor Frankland read a report, prepared by Mr. James Heywood, of which the following is an abstract:—

In April, 1856, the executive committee of the association for the reform of educational endowments petitioned Her Majesty, in privy council, against certain portions of the revised statutes of Exeter, Lincoln, and Corpus Christi Colleges, in the University of Oxford. Copies of these revised college statutes had been laid before Parliament at the commencement of the last session, and after a discussion in the House of Commons, the Government had agreed to refer the subject to a committee of the Privy Council.

When the Cambridge University Bill was under consideration in the House of Commons, an amendment was carried by a majority of eighty-four to sixty, to open the academical senate without any religious test, but the House of Lords subsequently reversed this decision, and sent the bill back to the Commons, with the academical senate closed to all masters of arts and other higher graduates who do not declare themselves members of the Church of England.

Public attention has long been directed in this neighbourhood to the Manchester Free Grammar School, and the introduction of modern languages, and practical science, is especially to be desired in this local institution. Endowed grammar schools, founded before the Reformation, are regarded by the judges, in their construction of the Act of Uniformity of 1662, to be Church of England institutions, and no Dissenter, however highly qualified, could be elected to the high mastership of any of these ancient endowed schools.

Lancashire cannot maintain her pre-eminence as the great depot of manufactures for the world, unless the youth of the rising generation in this county obtain efficient instruction in science and modern languages, and as the first step in improvement, an inquiry by a royal commission into the educational endowments of Lancashire would be desirable, with a view to enlarge the system of public instruction for this densely-peopled province.

The Rev. R. B. ASPLAND proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Heywood for his able document. The Rev. H. H. JONES seconded the motion, and it was adopted.

Mr. HEYWOOD then spoke at some length, pointing out the progress which had already been made, and the difficulties yet to be overcome. He was of opinion that, with regard to admission to the universities, the test of conformity to the liturgy ought to be removed; and he was glad to see that there was a movement in the Church of England itself, which had a tendency to aid him and others in this view, namely, the often expressed desire for an abridgment of the liturgy. Mr. Heywood thought it very desirable that inquiry should be made into educational endowments, particularly in this county.

Professor HALL moved, and Mr. THOMAS BAKER seconded, a list of the names of gentlemen to constitute the officers of the association for the ensuing year.—A resolution was passed to the effect that a subscription of ten shillings or upwards per annum be the qualification of membership. A number of those present subscribed 1l. each. Dr. ASHTON said the education question was now claiming particular attention, and they ought not to neglect the resources which

might be derived from the generosity of their ancestors. He believed that 13,000l. or upwards should be obtained from the endowments in this immediate neighbourhood for the diffusion of education. He moved:—

That it is desirable that a bill be prepared and submitted to the House of Commons for the improvement of endowed grammar schools, and the farther removal of restrictions limiting the general usefulness of the Universities and Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge.

The Rev. J. PANTON HAM seconded the resolution. Mr. THOS. CLEGG, although professing to be a conscientious Churchman, concurred with the object. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr. HEYWOOD moved:—

That a summary of the educational endowments of Lancashire be prepared at the expense of this association from the parliamentary report on Lancashire, charities, and that it be printed and circulated among the members of the association, and be published.

Mr. FERRIS seconded the resolution; and Professor FRANKLAND, in supporting it, said it was very desirable that any influence which the association might possess, should be exerted towards furthering a reform in the Oxford and Cambridge universities.

In putting the resolution to the meeting, Dr. VAUGHAN said they were now moving with a better prospect of success than they had hitherto known. The universities were English institutions, and they should be upon as broad and English a basis as possible. The following resolution was next adopted:

That it is expedient to inquire into the state of the educational endowments of Lancashire, it being the opinion of this meeting that the administration of these endowments may in many instances be greatly improved, so as to afford benefits to a wider circle of the inhabitants of this populous county.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Rev. Dr. Vaughan for presiding.

#### Parliamentary Proceedings.

##### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

###### PETITIONS PRESENTED.

China, for recall of Sir J. Bowring, &c., 1.  
Convicts, for improved system of punishment, 3.  
Income-tax, for repeal or reduction, 130.  
Paper Duty, for repeal, 7.  
Poor-law Medical Officers, for improving their condition, 1.  
Superannuation Act, for amendment, 13.  
Wine Duties, for reduction, 2.  
China and Persia, for prevention of further acts of aggression, 7.  
— for inquiry, 1.  
Church Property (Ireland), for sale of, 1.  
County-rates, for local management, 1.  
Drunkennes, for suppression, 1.  
Elective Franchise (Scotland), for extension, 1.  
Fire Insurance Duty, for repeal, 1.  
Metropolitan Roads, for abolition of tolls, 1.  
Public-houses (Scotland) Act, for extension to Ireland, 1.  
Registration of Voters (Scotland) Act, for amendment, 1.  
Adulteration of Food, for prevention, 1.  
Grand Juries (Ireland) Act, for repeal, 1.  
Lord's-day, against public amusements, 1.  
Poor-law, for amendment, 1.  
Turkish Contingent, from members of, praying for redress, 1.  
Turnpike Tolls, for abolition, 1.  
Weights and Measures, for uniform system, 1.

###### BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Outlawries Bill.  
Judgments Execution, &c., Bill.  
Ionian Subjects' Commissions Bill.  
Norfolk Island (Ecclesiastical Government) Bill.  
Imprisonment for Debt, &c., Bill.  
Passing Tolls Bill.  
Mayor's Court of the City of London Bill.  
Burial of the Dead within the City and Liberties of London Bill.  
Reformatory Schools Bill.  
Transportation and Penal Servitude Bill.  
Commons' Inclosure Bill.

###### DEBATES.

###### THE ADDRESS.

At the noon sitting of the House of Commons, on Wednesday, the report on the Address, in reply to the Royal Speech, was brought up by Sir J. Ramsden.

Mr. HADFIELD complained of the Speech from the Throne. The apathy of the Government in respect of our immense colonial possessions was astonishing, especially when it was remembered that for the supply of cotton—a matter of vital interest to this country—we were almost entirely dependent upon the United States, while in India we possessed territories where that article could be most extensively grown if the Government would only devote some little attention to the subject. Last year the consumption of cotton in this country was at the rate of 43,000 bales per week, and every year showed an increased demand. The failure of the crop in the United States would be attended with consequences fearful to contemplate, and, besides, the supply might be stopped from other causes. The American manufacturers, who rivalled the manufacturers of this country, would be the first to be supplied; and should the slave trade be determined there would be less certainty in the quantity of cotton produced. Was it doing justice to India to give the whole advantage of our purchases to the Americans, or was the Government of India showing its wisdom in neglecting this source, when it had been obliged to enforce the collection of revenue even by torture? He did not ask the Government to grow cotton or silk. He only made this reasonable request, that they should open a field in which the capital and skill of English manufactures might be advantageously employed. (Hear, hear.)

Admiral WALCOTT, while bearing testimony to the promptitude and ability displayed in the recent operations against Canton, expressed his opinion that the Chinese had already received more than adequate punishment for their offences.

Mr. V. SMITH did not exactly see what it was his honourable friend (Mr. Hadfield) wished to have done. If his honourable friend would make a specific motion he should be ready to meet it. The accusation was general, that the Government of India had completely neglected the growth of cotton. That statement was exaggerated. A select committee had reported favourably of the efforts of the Government to



themselves, who were as much out of their proper sphere in controlling the Church as a Presbyterian Presbytery would be if they sat in council at the Horse Guards or the Admiralty, and controlled the appointments, equipments, and movements of the army or navy. The Rev. E. S. Bryce, B.A., in a long, eloquent, and interesting speech, gave an outline of the operations of the Religious Liberation Society during the past year. For the benefit of those present who might not be fully acquainted with the nature and objects of the society he represented, he briefly sketched its origin, nature, objects, and modes of action. He alluded more particularly to its efforts both in and out of Parliament, in connexion with the abolition of Church-rates in England, and the impartial disendowment of all religious bodies in Ireland; showing how rapidly and how materially the operations of the society were telling in favour of both these measures, in spite of the unwearied and determined efforts of the Government to thwart them, and to prevent their being discussed in Parliament. He anticipated for both these measures increased support in Parliament, and an ultimate and even speedy triumph, if the friends of religious liberty in the Established and Dissenting communities remained true to their principles, and determined earnestly and consistently to carry them out. Mr. Pryce, who spoke for about an hour, was listened to throughout with the most intense interest on the part of the audience, and frequently interrupted by enthusiastic applause. The meeting was afterwards briefly addressed by J. S. Muschet, Esq., of Birkhill, Rev. James Culress, Mr. Yellowlees, Mr. Christie, and Mr. Pattison, who, on behalf of the acting committee of the Stirling Voluntary Association, urged the claims of the Religious Liberation Society on their continued exertions and liberality. He hoped they would be able to send a respectable sum from Stirling to the Society in London. Thanks having been unanimously voted to the committee for their efficient arrangements, and to the chairman for his conduct in the chair, the proceedings terminated.

**CHURCH-RATE SEIZURE AT BEXLEY-HEATH, KENT.**—On Tuesday morning, Jan. 20, a broker's appraiser and man, as agents of the churchwardens of the parish of Bexley, entered the dwelling-house of the Rev. C. H. Hosken, Baptist minister, and seized all the books and furniture in his study, for Church-rates made in the years 1854-55, and by him refused as unjust. The man continued in possession until Monday, Jan. 26, when the following goods were sold by public auction: One rosewood lute table-cover, one mahogany two-flap dining-table, six mahogany horsehair-seated chairs, a Brussels carpet, a set of fire-irons, and a parlour fender; the amount of the rate being 17. 0s. 6d. The room was well filled by the friends and neighbours of Mr. Hosken, and when the sum for which the goods were run up by the appraiser reached 3l. 8s., he stopped the sale, stating that it was sufficient to cover his expenses. A gentleman present immediately proposed that a public collection should be made to defray the same; which was done, and in five minutes the sum was raised, every one in the room cheerfully contributing. It is worthy of remark that scarcely a Churchman was present, except by their worthy representatives, the broker's appraiser, &c.

**THE CHURCH SOCIETY AND THE ROYAL LETTER.**—At the last meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, a letter was read from the Secretary of State, upon declining to recommend the issue of a Royal Letter. The Standing Committee were of opinion that it was inadvisable to apply for Episcopal Letters, and that the society should throw itself on the sympathy of the Church; and this resolution was approved by the board.

**THE FREE CHURCH SUSTENTATION FUND** for the eight months from 15th May, 1856, to 15th Jan., 1857, amounts to 68,146l. 19s., while for the same period of the previous year it amounted to 67,613l. 16s. 4d., being an increase of 533l. 2s. 8d. [Of course there are congregational contributions to ministers independent of the Fund.]

### Religious Intelligence.

**BELPER.**—On Tuesday evening, Jan. 20, at a meeting held in the Congregational Chapel, Belper, occasioned by the resignation of the pastorate by the Rev. John Whewell, an address and purse were presented by the chairman, Thomas Harrison, Esq., on behalf of the Church and congregation. After an appropriate reply from Mr. Whewell, the meeting was addressed by several members of the Congregational and of other denominations. All the speakers concurred in expressing their high approbation of Mr. Whewell's character as a Christian, his Catholicity, talent, and consecration as a minister. The Rev. J. Leighton, of Heanor, and Robert A. Tarlton, of Derby, expressed their high estimate of Mr. Whewell, and the loss which they believed the county will sustain by his removal. Mr. Whewell's resignation was occasioned by a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of Ebenezer Chapel, West Bromwich, rendered vacant by the removal of the Rev. W. Cuthbertson to Sydney, New South Wales, as successor to the Rev. Dr. Ross.

**GLOUCESTER.**—THE COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON'S SCHOOLS.—The above Sunday-schools are about the oldest in the kingdom. For forty-six years annual sermons in their behalf have been preached in the month of January. The last anniversary was held on Sunday, the 25th ult., when three excellent sermons were preached in the morning and afternoon by the Rev. W. G. Lewis, of Cheltenham; and in the evening by the Rev. Thomas Haynes, late of Bristol. Notwithstanding the very unfavourable weather, the congregation in the evening was crowded, and upwards of 187 have been realised for the

schools. On Monday evening, Jan. 26th, upwards of two hundred persons, including teachers and friends, took tea together; the Rev. T. Roberts presided. The Rev. A. Morton Brown, LL.D., of Cheltenham, and the Rev. D. J. Evans, of Stroud, gave admirable addresses on specially given subjects. The Revs. L. J. Wake, of Cheltenham, and J. Hyatt, and W. Collings, of Gloucester, also addressed the meeting.

**HALIFAX. — PROPOSED NEW COLLEGE.**—The liberality of the Messrs. Crossley, of this town, seems to know no bounds. This week, John Crossley, Esq., has commenced preparations for erecting a college, which, when completed, is to vie with the schools at Harrow and Rugby, and other equally celebrated scholastic establishments. The site of the new college is on the westerly side of Skircoat Moor, Mr. Crossley having succeeded in purchasing the plot of ground which had once over been sold to the Government for the purpose of erecting militia barracks. We have not seen the plans nor the architectural elevation, but we understand the college will be a massive building with a large spire and four small towers, and from its elevated position will form a grand object for observation for many miles round. When completed there will be ample accommodation for 130 pupils, and nine resident masters, with the principal. The large dining hall will be on the south side of the college, and from its windows a most extended view of the neighbouring hills will be obtained. The school-room is on the opposite side of the college, and both rooms are to be perfect gems. Commodious class-rooms, baths, lavatories, museum, and library are to occupy the ground floor, all of which will be communicated with by a spacious corridor lighted from the roof. The dormitories are to be spacious and airy, and the bedrooms of the masters are so disposed that each of them will communicate with the sleeping apartments of the pupils. Each master is to have a study and a separate suite of apartments, and we believe it is the intention of Mr. Crossley to provide ample accommodation in a distinct part of the college for the residence of twelve young gentlemen who may not have enjoyed the advantage of early education, but who may be desirous to complete their studies under such superior advantages as will be offered them by the college regulations. The college (which is to cost 20,000l.) is to be erected at the sole expense of John Crossley, Esq. This munificent and princely gift to the town and neighbourhood cannot be too highly estimated. The works are to be pushed forward with the utmost rapidity, and it is anticipated that the college will be opened in about two years from the present time.—*Halifax Guardian*. [According to the *Manchester Examiner*, the college is intended, primarily, for the education of the sons of Congregational ministers and missionaries, like the school of Colcoates-house, near Wakefield, which will probably be merged into it.]

**NEW COLLEGE.**—It is stated that the Rev. John Stoughton, of Kensington, has been offered the Presidency of this College, in the room of the late Dr. Harris, but has declined to accept that office.

**THE LONDON CITY MISSION.**—The City Mission has wiped away from London the reproach which lay on it in 1838, when 50,000 families were destitute of the Holy Scriptures. As nearly as can be, these families are now supplied. The respective numbers of seven-day and six-day cabs are undergoing a favourable change, and last year there was an increase of 381 in the latter class, and a happy decrease of 37 in the former. During the last twelve months 1,159 couples, previously living unlawfully together, have been persuaded to enter into holy wedlock. Within the same period 11,564 children have been sent into Sunday and daily schools, and no fewer than 5,869 communicants added to Christian churches by the same instrumentality.—*Christian Times*.

### Correspondence.

#### THE LATE MEETING OF THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.  
SIR,—I dare say that you have often been unable to recognise your own ideas when some reporter has abbreviated a speech of yours, has transferred it to the third person, and has made about three inches of talk of it for a daily or weekly paper.

Some of us have experienced this infelicity in the reports of our speeches at the Congregational Union. I could not gather the aim of my own words from more than one of them. It reminded me of looking for the image of the Sovereign in a chipped and chiselled half-penny. One mistake in your report I shall feel obliged if you will allow me to correct. I said, that I thought the late editor of the *British Banner*, in assuming to be theological critic and censor among us, had wholly mistaken his mission. Your report makes me say exactly the opposite by inserting a "not" before the think. I am sorry that I could not get time to send this for your last number.

I remain, yours affectionately,  
Shetfield, Feb. 6, 1857. HENRY BATCHELOR.

#### THE REV. T. BINNEY.

[We have been requested to give insertion to the following letters:—]

No. I.  
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.  
Gentlemen,—We beg leave to request your attention to the following correspondence.

H. BATEMAN.  
S. MORLEY.

No. II.  
TO THE REV. T. BINNEY.

London, Jan. 26, 1857.  
Dear Sir,—We perceive that you have announced, by advertisement, your intention to publish "A Letter to

the Rev. John Kelly, Chairman of the Conference which met at the Milton Club, on the 23rd Sept. last."

This letter, we conclude, can only relate to the arbitration, then proposed and accepted, between yourself and Dr. Campbell.

We think it is evident that when you advertised this intention you had not seen Dr. Campbell's account of the meetings of the Congregational Union, held last week.

We have no other right to interfere with your proposal, than what arises from the supposition, that in appointing us, as you did, your friends to arrange for the proposed arbitration, you had confidence in our judgment. On this ground alone, we now venture to request that you will not persevere in your intention to publish as announced; our very decided opinion being, that after the manner in which you were treated by Dr. Campbell in the matter of arbitration, and the style (which we are unwilling to characterise) in which, as a public journalist he has dealt with the Union meetings above referred to, you owe it to yourself as a gentleman, to retire at once and altogether from further notice of the so-called "Controversy," as between yourself and Dr. Campbell.

Whether, in the month of May, you should lay before the members of the Union, and your friends, a full statement of the case, is a consideration that, we think, may be postponed; if it be done, we shall be ready to bear our public testimony to the promptness of your decisions, and the entire frankness and transparency of your conduct, in the whole matter of the attempted arbitration, which claim, and have, our hearty approval.

In the meantime, we respectfully advise that you should not publish the proposed "Letter to Mr. Kelly."

We are, dear Sir, yours very sincerely,  
H. BATEMAN.  
S. MORLEY.

#### No. III.

Walworth, Feb. 9, 1857.  
My dear Friends,—I was not prepared to reply to your communication till towards the close of last week, and I have since been prevented by pressing duties. I felt it right to address a letter to the committee of the Union for their meeting on Tuesday last. I received their reply on Thursday. These two documents completed the series which was to have constituted the substance of my Letter to the Rev. J. Kelly, as Chairman of the Conference, and, through him, to those who composed it.

I still think that something is due to those gentlemen, and that they, perhaps, owe something to themselves.

I have such entire confidence, however, in your judgment, and am so much obliged to you for the great, though fruitless trouble you have had, that I yield my own opinion, and fall in with your suggestion. So far as I am concerned, therefore, the matter may rest where it is; I give up all thought of the publication to which you refer.

I am, my dear friends, yours very truly,  
H. Bateman, Esq. T. BINNEY.  
Samuel Morley, Esq.

#### CONVOCAION OF THE CLERGY.

The Convocation of the Bishops and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury met on Wednesday, in the Jerusalem Chamber. In the Upper House, where the Archbishop of Canterbury presided, there were the Bishop of Winchester, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of St. David's, the Bishop of Oxford, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, the Bishop of Chichester, the Bishop of Exeter, the Bishop of Llandaff, and the Bishop of Salisbury. The chief subject here discussed arose on a petition presented by the Bishop of Chichester calling attention to the "indiscriminate use" of the burial service in cases where persons have died unbaptized, excommunicate, or by their own hands. The Bishop of Oxford was almost sure that the bishop has power to protect a clergyman who refuses to read the burial service over such as die manifestly in the commission of deadly sin. In one case, a clergyman in his diocese who refused to read the burial-service was threatened with legal proceedings; but they were stayed when it was known that the clergyman had acted under the directions of his diocesan. Other bishops expressed similar opinions. The Archbishop of CANTEBURY said that he felt the difficulty of the remedy is greater than the difficulty of the evil, but he was sure that the clergy would derive satisfaction from the statements of his reverend brethren.

The Bishop of EXETER had a petition to present from a large body of clergy and laity, on the subject of Ditcher and Denison. The memorialists expressed their fears that the judgment pronounced in Archdeacon Denison's case was fraught with danger to the Church, and could not withhold their remonstrances. He certainly should not recommend that it should be taken into consideration at present. At the same time the memorialists had treated their lordships with great calmness and respect. The Archbishop of CANTEBURY said, if the matter was pressed, their lordships would be obliged to say whether they would receive it or not, and that would be placing them in a dilemma. The memorial was not received.

From a conversation that afterwards took place, it appeared that in various dioceses of England persons were officiating as clergymen not being in orders, and although precautions had been taken to restrain them, they still continued their self-assumed ministrations. Many suggestions were made to meet the evil.

Their lordships then suspended their sitting until the Lower House should be prepared with any message or communication.

In the Lower House, owing to the absence of the Prolocutor, Dr. Elliott, Dean of Bristol, presided. There was a very large number of proctors present. Several petitions were presented, one by the Rev. F. Vincent, from the diocese of Chichester, complaining of having to read the burial service over persons who died in impenitence and sin; by the Rev. J. H. Cox, from the Rev. Thomas Ker, Rector of



Great Sandford, complaining that the Bishop of Oxford had illegally interfered in the election of a Proctor, and had threatened to turn the petitioner out of the room, and had twice sent for a policeman; several on the question of Church-rates.

The Rev. Canon WORDSWORTH gave notice of a motion respecting the extension of missionary efforts at home and abroad; the Rev. J. FENDALL, praying that the ornaments to be henceforth retained in the church, and by the ministers thereof, ought to be prescribed; the Rev. Canon SELWYN, on the question of the revision of the Scriptures, requesting that a body of learned men, well skilled in the original language of the Holy Scriptures, might be appointed to consider the amendments of the authorised version, as had already been proposed, and to receive suggestions from all persons who might be willing to give them. Archdeacon DENISON gave notice of the following amendment to the Rev. Canon Selwyn's motion:—

That it is not expedient that this House give any encouragement to a revision of the authorised version, whether by way of insertion in the text, marginal note, or otherwise.

The Rev. Canon WORDSWORTH also gave notice of a motion on the same subject, to the effect that it was not desirable to countenance any efforts to make changes in the text of the authorised version, and that any alteration that might be made should be confined to the margin.

The Rev. G. HILLS, canon of Norwich, moved, and the Archdeacon of NORFOLK seconded, the following resolution:—

That the question of Church-rates being one of urgent importance at the present moment the Lower House humbly submit to their lordships that the conference suggested to their lordships by the committee of gravamina and approved by their lordships, be not long deferred.

The motion was carried.

Archdeacon RANDALL moved, that in all questions of doctrine or ritual the final appeal should be to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; that the Privy Council should refer a statement of the doctrine or ritual in dispute to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who, having assembled the Archbishops and Bishops of England and taken their opinion, should transmit it to the Judicial Committee for a final decision. Professor SELWYN moved an amendment, making, in effect, the Synod of the province the court of appeal. This was negatived without a division. Chancellor MARTIN proposed, that whether in conjunction with the Privy Council or not, the Court of final Appeal should consist of two Archbishops, three Bishops, the Regius and Margaret Professors of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the Divinity Professors of Dublin and Durham, the Lord Chancellor, the Master of the Rolls, and five Ecclesiastical and Civil Judges, being members of the Church of England. Negatived by 35 to 14.

On Thursday, the meeting of the Upper House was of a merely formal character, and was immediately adjourned by the Most Reverend President till Friday morning, when it meets for the disposal of business.

In the Lower House, on Thursday, the debate on the formation of a Court of Appeal in matters of doctrine, was resumed. Archdeacon DENISON moved an amendment to the effect that the House had no suggestions to make other than those already before the Upper House. This was negatived by 24 to 21. But Archdeacon HARRISON then moved and carried a similar amendment, stating that the House would "earnestly commend to the consideration of the Upper House the principles embodied in the report already presented to their Lordships, as those which in the judgment of this House are to be carefully kept in view with regard to the subject of appeal."

The Rev. Canon SEYMOUR submitted a motion intended to secure "the counsel and co-operation of the faithful laity in the proceedings of Convocation." Archdeacon DENISON objected on a point of order, but the Prolocutor ruled otherwise. He thought they had a perfect right to address the Crown upon any subject which they had not been forbidden to do. Canon SEYMOUR assumed that the synodal action of the Church was an ordinance of God, and recognised in the 15th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. He apprehended, if his proposition were carried, Parliament would no longer be able to look with suspicion at every act of the Convocation, because it would know that every such act would be endorsed by a sufficient portion of the people to give assurance that nothing would be done injuriously to affect the laity in their rights and liberties. Then came the objection that it would endanger the union between Church and State. There was a time when the State was in danger because the Church was led on by a foreign bishop, and usurped the privileges and power of the State; but he apprehended if there were any danger now it lay quite another way, and the fear was lest the State should usurp the power and the privileges of the Church. The Hon. and Rev. S. BEST seconded the motion; but further discussion was cut short by adjournment.

In the Upper House, on Friday, the resolutions passed by the Lower House, on the expediency of making fresh exertions for sustaining and extending the missionary efforts of the Church, both at home and in foreign parts, was considered. The Bishops of Oxford, Exeter, and Winchester spoke at considerable length on the subject; and ultimately a resolution was agreed to, admitting the necessity of increased exertions for sustaining and extending the missionary efforts of the Church both at home and in foreign parts; and stating that, as the best mode of action in the address presented by the Lower House, this House has appointed a committee to meet from time to time and consider the great subject to which their attention has been drawn, and to report upon it hereafter, and that the Lower House is desired to appoint a committee of their own body to consider separately the same matter, and to attend, when desired, upon the com-

mittee of this House, and communicate with it. The Prolocutor was then summoned, and after receiving the document he retired. After an absence of a quarter of an hour the Prolocutor returned with the committee, and the names having been received their lordships adjourned.

In the Lower House, the debate on the admission of the laity into Ecclesiastical Synods was resumed, and carried forward for a long time. Canon WOODGATE moved, and Archdeacon DENISON seconded, a motion to the effect that the question should not be entertained until "effectual means are taken to determine what constitutes a *bonâ fide* member of the Church of England." Chancellor MARTIN then moved the "previous question;" and after still further debate, it was carried by 29 to 11. Shortly afterwards, the Archbishop of CANTERBURY formally adjourned both Houses until the 26th June.

The *Morning Star* reports a striking incident in connexion with the meeting of the Lower House on this day:—

While the members of the Lower House were at prayers, and while some of the proctors who were late were shut out, according to the practice of the assemblies in "another place," a tall venerable looking gentleman, having all the appearance of a distinguished ecclesiastic, entered the lobby and inquired whether the Jerusalem Chamber was on these occasions, open to the public. He was informed by Mr. Burrows, the courteous hall-keeper, that he could be admitted on obtaining an order from a member, whereupon the Archdeacon of Bristol, who is well known to be one of the leaders of the High Church party, stepped forward, and blandly informed the distinguished stranger that he should be happy to introduce him. The two gentlemen entered into an animated and friendly conversation, and when prayers were over and the doors thrown open, Archdeacon Thorp politely introduced his new friend, of whose name he was ignorant. The stranger was Mr. Binney, one of the foremost men amongst the Dissenters. Mr. Binney remained during a considerable portion of the day, and seemed to take a lively interest in the proceedings.

#### THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE REFORM OF EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENTS.

(From the *Manchester Examiner*.)

The annual meeting of the members of this association was held in the Manchester Town Hall, on Wednesday, at noon. Amongst the gentlemen present were James Heywood, Esq., M.P., the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, the Rev. R. B. Aspland, M.A., the Rev. J. P. Ham, the Rev. H. H. Jones, Dr. Ashton, Professor Frankland, F.R.S., Professor Hall, M.A., Messrs. M. Schunk, Thomas Clegg, A. Ferris, Thomas Baker, &c. The Rev. Dr. Vaughan was elected to preside, and Professor Frankland read a report, prepared by Mr. James Heywood, of which the following is an abstract:—

In April, 1856, the executive committee of the association for the reform of educational endowments petitioned Her Majesty, in privy council, against certain portions of the revised statutes of Exeter, Lincoln, and Corpus Christi Colleges, in the University of Oxford. Copies of these revised college statutes had been laid before Parliament at the commencement of the last session, and after a discussion in the House of Commons, the Government had agreed to refer the subject to a committee of the Privy Council.

When the Cambridge University Bill was under consideration in the House of Commons, an amendment was carried by a majority of eighty-four to sixty, to open the academical senate without any religious test, but the House of Lords subsequently reversed this decision, and sent the bill back to the Commons, with the academical senate closed to all masters of arts and other higher graduates who do not declare themselves members of the Church of England.

Public attention has long been directed in this neighbourhood to the Manchester Free Grammar School, and the introduction of modern languages, and practical science, is especially to be desired in this local institution. Endowed grammar schools, founded before the Reformation, are regarded by the judges, in their construction of the Act of Uniformity of 1662, to be Church of England institutions, and no Dissenter, however highly qualified, could be elected to the high mastership of any of these ancient endowed schools.

Lancashire cannot maintain her pre-eminence as the great depot of manufactures for the world, unless the youth of the rising generation in this county obtain efficient instruction in science and modern languages, and as the first step in improvement, an inquiry by a royal commission into the educational endowments of Lancashire would be desirable, with a view to enlarge the system of public instruction for this densely-peopled province.

The Rev. R. B. ASPLAND proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Heywood for his able document. The Rev. H. H. JONES seconded the motion, and it was adopted.

Mr. HEYWOOD then spoke at some length, pointing out the progress which had already been made, and the difficulties yet to be overcome. He was of opinion that, with regard to admission to the universities, the test of conformity to the liturgy ought to be removed; and he was glad to see that there was a movement in the Church of England itself, which had a tendency to aid him and others in this view, namely, the often expressed desire for an abridgment of the liturgy. Mr. Heywood thought it very desirable that inquiry should be made into educational endowments, particularly in this county.

Professor HALL moved, and Mr. THOMAS BAKER seconded, a list of the names of gentlemen to constitute the officers of the association for the ensuing year.—A resolution was passed to the effect that a subscription of ten shillings or upwards per annum be the qualification of membership. A number of those present subscribed 1l. each. Dr. ASHTON said the education question was now claiming particular attention, and they ought not to neglect the resources which

might be derived from the generosity of their ancestors. He believed that 13,000l. or upwards should be obtained from the endowments in this immediate neighbourhood for the diffusion of education. He moved:—

That it is desirable that a bill be prepared and submitted to the House of Commons for the improvement of endowed grammar schools, and the farther removal of restrictions limiting the general usefulness of the Universities and Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge.

The Rev. J. PANTON HAM seconded the resolution. Mr. THOS. CLEGG, although professing to be a conscientious Churchman, concurred with the object. The resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr. HEYWOOD moved:—

That a summary of the educational endowments of Lancashire be prepared at the expense of this association from the parliamentary report on Lancashire, charities, and that it be printed and circulated among the members of the association, and be published.

Mr. FERRIS seconded the resolution; and Professor FRANKLAND, in supporting it, said it was very desirable that any influence which the association might possess, should be exerted towards furthering a reform in the Oxford and Cambridge universities.

In putting the resolution to the meeting, Dr. VAUGHAN said they were now moving with a better prospect of success than they had hitherto known. The universities were English institutions, and they should be upon as broad and English a basis as possible. The following resolution was next adopted:—

That it is expedient to inquire into the state of the educational endowments of Lancashire, it being the opinion of this meeting that the administration of these endowments may in many instances be greatly improved, so as to afford benefits to a wider circle of the inhabitants of this populous county.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Rev. Dr. Vaughan for presiding.

#### Parliamentary Proceedings.

##### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

###### PETITIONS PRESENTED.

China, for recall of Sir J. Bowring, &c., 1.  
Convicts, for improved system of punishment, 3.  
Income-tax, for repeal or reduction, 130.  
Paper Duty, for repeal, 7.  
Poor-law Medical Officers, for improving their condition, 1.  
Superannuation Act, for amendment, 13.  
Wine Duties, for reduction, 2.  
China and Persia, for prevention of further acts of aggression, 7.  
— for inquiry, 1.  
Church Property (Ireland), for sale of, 1.  
County-rates, for local management, 1.  
Drunkenness, for suppression, 1.  
Elective Franchise (Scotland), for extension, 1.  
Fire Insurance Duty, for repeal, 1.  
Metropolitan Roads, for abolition of tolls, 1.  
Public-houses (Scotland) Act, for extension to Ireland, 1.  
Registration of Voters (Scotland) Act, for amendment, 1.  
Adulteration of Food, for prevention, 1.  
Grand Juries (Ireland) Act, for repeal, 1.  
Lord's-day, against public amusements, 1.  
Poor-law, for amendment, 1.  
Turkish Contingent, from members of, praying for redress, 1.  
Turnpike Tolls, for abolition, 1.  
Weights and Measures, for uniform system, 1.

###### BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Outlawries Bill.  
Judgments Execution, &c., Bill.  
Ionian Subjects' Commissions Bill.  
Norfolk Island (Ecclesiastical Government) Bill.  
Imprisonment for Debt, &c., Bill.  
Passing Tolls Bill.  
Mayor's Court of the City of London Bill.  
Burial of the Dead within the City and Liberties of London Bill.  
Reformatory Schools Bill.  
Transportation and Penal Servitude Bill.  
Commons' Inclosure Bill.

###### DEBATES.

###### THE ADDRESS.

At the noon sitting of the House of Commons, on Wednesday, the report on the Address, in reply to the Royal Speech, was brought up by Sir J. Ramsden.

Mr. HADFIELD complained of the Speech from the Throne. The apathy of the Government in respect of our immense colonial possessions was astonishing, especially when it was remembered that for the supply of cotton—a matter of vital interest to this country—we were almost entirely dependent upon the United States, while in India we possessed territories where that article could be most extensively grown if the Government would only devote some little attention to the subject. Last year the consumption of cotton in this country was at the rate of 43,000 bales per week, and every year showed an increased demand. The failure of the crop in the United States would be attended with consequences fearful to contemplate, and, besides, the supply might be stopped from other causes. The American manufacturers, who rivalled the manufacturers of this country, would be the first to be supplied; and should the slave trade be determined there would be less certainty in the quantity of cotton produced. Was it doing justice to India to give the whole advantage of our purchases to the Americans, or was the Government of India showing its wisdom in neglecting this source, when it had been obliged to enforce the collection of revenue even by torture? He did not ask the Government to grow cotton or silk. He only made this reasonable request, that they should open a field in which the capital and skill of English manufactures might be advantageously employed. (Hear, hear.)

Admiral WALCOTT, while bearing testimony to the promptitude and ability displayed in the recent operations against Canton, expressed his opinion that the Chinese had already received more than adequate punishment for their offences.

Mr. V. SMITH did not exactly see what it was his honourable friend (Mr. Hadfield) wished to have done. If his honourable friend would make a specific motion he should be ready to meet it. The accusation was general, that the Government of India had completely neglected the growth of cotton. That statement was exaggerated. A select committee had reported favourably of the efforts of the Government to



introduce the cultivation of cotton into India, and since that time those efforts had not been relaxed. He supposed the honourable member, as a free-trader, would not have the cultivation of cotton made compulsory, and in the way of encouragement nothing had been left undone. Experiments as to the growth of American cotton in India had generally resulted in failure, and it was his belief that the indigenous plant ought to be cultivated in preference. It was true there was a deficiency of roads, but the Government had done all they could to promote railway and branch roads in order to facilitate the transmission of produce to the coast. The difficulty of the soil and the magnitude of the expense had, however, prevented the progress of railways in India being as rapid as they wished. He admitted it was worthy of consideration whether, to induce the employment of capital, it might not be well to make the charges on land fixed instead of variable. (Hear.) He was anxious to see capital embarked in the development of the resources of India, and he should be glad to hear of companies being formed for the purpose. The complaints by the missionaries of the judicial and police systems were under investigation by the Government, and, in his opinion, that was a better mode of inquiry than by a commission, which might excite vague hopes and embarrass the Government.

Mr. KINNAIRD regretted that the Government had decided not to grant a commission of inquiry, and hoped they would reconsider the matter when an important petition from persons, influential and well-affected towards the Company, which was now on its way to England, was laid on the table of the House.

The report was then agreed to, and the address was ordered to be presented.

In the Lords, Earl SPENCER brought up the Queen's answer to the Address.

On the report being brought up in the Commons, on Friday, Lord J. RUSSELL complained that the terms of the address in reply to the Royal Speech pledged the House to an approval of the Persian war. He wished to exonerate himself from any participation in such pledge. Sir G. GREY admitted that the phraseology of the Address might be interpreted into a pledge of approval, but declared that no member of the House was to be considered bound by it.

#### THE PERSIAN AND CHINESE WARS.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH asked, whether any despatch would be laid on the table authorising Sir John Bowring to take advantage of any favourable opportunity for urging the Chinese authorities to observe the treaty and admit foreigners into Canton? The Earl of CLARENDON said, no specific instructions on that head were given to Sir John Bowring, but that in his general instructions he was told to bear in mind the desirableness of obtaining free access to Canton.

When Sir John Bowring arrived at his post, he communicated his arrival to the Imperial Commissioner, and requested an interview with him in Canton. That interview, however, was refused, and the only despatch addressed to Sir John Bowring upon the subject was one in which the Government approved the measures he had taken upon that occasion. No instructions have been sent him since, although Sir John Bowring has constantly represented the inconvenience resulting from a want of direct communication with the Chinese authorities.

In reply to a further question, Lord CLARENDON said that he did not intend to make any motion on the subject.

The Earl of MALMESBURY complained that a course different from the practice of preceding Governments is followed now. When Sir George Bonham was on leave of absence in this country, he said it would be no benefit, but rather the reverse, to insist on our right of admission; as, if the English entered Canton, they would be exposed to insults from that barbarous and prejudiced population. Some of the despatches sent home in 1852-53 would serve as antidotes to those of Sir John Bowring.

Lord CLARENDON replied that he had not the least objection to furnish the papers indicated. If he remembered rightly, Lord Malmesbury had directed Sir John Bowring to confine himself strictly to the maintenance of the *status quo*. ("Hear, hear," from Lord Malmesbury.)

Earl GREY, satisfied with the promise of the papers, hoped they would extend as far back as the original treaty; for the controversy was by no means a new one. He begged especially to hope, that among them would be included a despatch which he had himself written, after consultation with the late Duke of Wellington, dated the 24th November, 1847, which strictly prohibited offensive operations being undertaken by the local authorities without reference to the Government at home.

On the Persian question, the Earl of DERRY inquired when the papers would be produced. Lord CLARENDON said, they are ready, but delayed in consequence of the negotiations pending at Paris. Lord DERRY thought that an insufficient reason. The only papers asked for are those which illustrate the motives of Government in entering on war, and the mode of proclaiming war. For his own part, he was struck by the powerful statement of Lord Grey, and disposed to concur in the general principles he laid down.

#### THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

Mr. LABOUCHERE moved, on Thursday, for a Select Committee "to consider the state of those British Possessions in North America which are under the administration of the Hudson's Bay Company, or over which they have a licence to trade." Those vast possessions lie beyond the limits of the Canadas, stretch from the waters of Hudson's Bay to the Pacific, and include Vancouver's Island. Extensive portions are suited only to hunting; but there are large districts rich in soil and minerals, and others, from situation, valuable to commerce. For a long

time the authority over those regions was divided between the Hudson's Bay Company and the Northwest Companies, but more recently these companies amalgamated. The tenure of the Hudson's Bay Company in Rupert's Land rests on a charter granted in 1670 by Charles the Second. The claim under that charter had been investigated by the Crown under Lord Grey's administration of the Colonies; and on the statement of the company the then law-officers were of opinion that the claim was good. But the company has a right of trading over far more valuable land—the district West of the Rocky Mountains called British Oregon. That right is held under a licence which expires in 1859. Under these circumstances, it is necessary that the subject should receive the fullest consideration, and the company itself is anxious that the whole subject shall be thoroughly investigated. On the whole, he thought the rule of the company has been beneficial to the native population. They have maintained discipline among their servants, and restrained the sale of ardent spirits among the Indians. But he doubted whether a trading company could or would encourage colonisation.

Mr. ROEBUCK said that the Colonial Minister might have taken a shorter course, since general principles which apply to the question might have enabled him to legislate without specific inquiry. A fur company is opposed to colonisation. They have kept their territories a solitude, and have done all they could to increase the numbers of bears, wolves, and foxes, and prevent the increase of man. What he desired to see was the clearing of forests and the draining of morasses, which would render the country habitable and the climate temperate. There is a country between the St. Lawrence and Hudson's Bay, as large as Europe, where a great nation might be created, which would prevent the preponderance of the United States. Even supposing the company's charter good, the House will find it difficult to uphold the rights of the company in opposition to the interests of humanity.

Mr. ADDERLEY said the real question is whether this extensive region shall continue to belong to the Queen, or to be annexed to the United States. England must open it, or it will open itself. The company's charter has no validity; but if it were valid, it cannot be maintained in opposition to the rights and interests of mankind. They must free the country from the grasp of the Hudson's Bay Company, and hand it over, not to the Colonial Office, but to Canada.

Mr. E. ELLICE defended the Hudson's Bay Company's right and its rule. As a proof that it is beneficial, he said that while the Indians in the United States are decreasing, they are actually increasing in British territory. If the charter of the company was intrinsically good for nothing, still it had lasted for 200 years; it had been recognised by the Government and by the British House of Commons as a convenience, and the company, should their charter not be renewed, had a fair claim on the consideration of the British Legislature. Van Couver's Island was peculiarly adapted for colonisation; and the company had undertaken to colonise it on the part of the Government. The select committee would elicit valuable information on an important subject.

Mr. GLADSTONE thought it was a scandal to the House of Commons that it had not before considered, with the seriousness it required, the large portion of the globe which was, or purported to be, under the dominion of the Hudson's Bay Company. Supposing the result of the appointment of the committee to be a recommendation to withdraw from the company the power it now possessed, doubtless the company would be liberally dealt with. But there were two questions bearing on this subject to which he must advert; one was the legality of the charter; the second, the expediency of continuing the powers and privileges of the company. As to the legality of the title of the company, that company was established by a charter of Charles II. in 1670, which purported to confer on the company a power of government almost absolute, and a trade which was exclusive. But there was a condition attached to the grant—that it should prosecute the discovery of a new passage to the South Sea. That condition had been never performed by the company, although they had ever since retained their privileges. But the legality of the charter was, it appeared, questioned by the Legislature. In 1690, an Act of Parliament was passed, reciting the various powers which had been granted and demitted by the charter, "or had been mentioned to be granted and demitted," and then confirming the powers and privileges of the charter. But the duration of the act itself was limited to seven years. (Hear, hear.) On the second question, the expediency of entrusting to a company like the Hudson's Bay Company, or, in fact, to any company, the exclusive government of this vast territory, it appeared to him to be an abnegation, a renunciation, by England, of a great duty, when she consented to lock up from the energy of her children so large a portion of her empire. He supported the motion for a reference of the subject to a select committee.

Mr. HENLEY rejoiced to find the change which had come over the spirit of the nation, as exhibited in the absence of the sanctity which formerly attached to "musty records."

After some further conversation, Mr. LABOUCHERE said that his desire had only been to bring the matter impartially before the House, and he was glad the course of the Government had met with general approval.—Motion agreed to.

#### THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND MR. DISRAELI'S MOTION.

On Friday night, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that the Navy Estimates would be presented on Tuesday, the Army Estimates in the course of this week; and on Monday or Tuesday Sir George would

state the day either for the consideration of the Estimates, or for making the Financial Statement.

Shortly after, Mr. WILLIAMS expressed a hope that Mr. Disraeli would persevere in his motion, should the Chancellor of the Exchequer not make his statement before attempting to carry votes of supply.

Mr. DISRAELI explained his position and intentions more explicitly than in the debate on the Address:—

I can assure the honourable gentleman, that it is my intention to proceed with my motion, whatever may be the course pursued by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. (Cheers.) I think that the object of that motion has been misunderstood, and that it will be seen to be quite independent of the course which Her Majesty's Government may think proper to take. I observed that great agitation prevailed throughout the country in the autumn, in consequence of a grievance which was sustained under an Act of Parliament. I examined into the circumstances of those allegations, and it appeared to me that it was a grievance justly complained of. All that I shall propose to do is to repeal the Act of Parliament that entails this grievance. In the agitation of this question, however, as in all agitations of this kind, very many dangerous opinions have been circulated with respect to the principles of taxation with regard to this particular law; and I thought it more judicious, not only to remove the grievance, but to assert those sound and just principles on which I thought the tax ought to rest as long as it is permitted to remain in existence. I thought that if I attempted to remove the grievance without arresting attention to the principles of the tax, I should pursue a course which would be injurious to the public good, and should only half perform my duty. I shall endeavour, in the motion I shall make, to accomplish both these purposes. I am not about to bring forward any financial scheme myself, nor do I want to stand in the way of the financial scheme of Her Majesty's Ministers. I think that the House of Commons is acting in the discharge of its first and highest duty in redressing a great grievance which has been complained of, and in asserting and strengthening those principles of legislation which I think it of advantage should be maintained. Whatever estimates, therefore, may be brought forward in this House, and whatever may be their nature and amount, ways and means will, I doubt not, always be found in order to sustain the public service of the country. (Cheers.)

Mr. CARDWELL said he hoped that the speech just delivered would confirm the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the good resolution he had announced, although more faintly than could have been wished. At the same time, he did not see how it was possible to go into one part of the great financial case without hearing the whole. If the House repealed the Income-tax, imposed for war purposes, without providing for all necessary expenditure, the House would be compelled either to sanction a loan, or to levy taxes on articles of consumption. He submitted, that the proper course was to follow the precedents set by Sir Robert Peel in 1845 and Lord John Russell in 1848, and state the whole views of the Government before proceeding with the Estimates.

On Monday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER announced that the Navy Estimates would be laid upon the table of the House on the following day, and the Army Estimates on Wednesday (to-day), and that he would make his financial statement on Friday next.

#### THE BANK CHARTER.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the operation of the Bank Act of 1844, and of the Bank Acts for Ireland and Scotland of 1845; also into the law relating to joint-stock banks. In order to elucidate the operation and policy of the act of 1844 he went back to the time of the Bank restriction, and of the wholesome principle adopted by Sir Robert Peel in 1819—the convertibility of bank-notes into gold. Acting upon the report of a committee of that House, Sir Robert, in 1844, introduced the act in question, with the view of further enforcing that principle, by imposing certain conditions upon the issue of bank-notes and providing securities against their over-issue—a policy which he (Sir G. Lewis) thought it superfluous to justify. The issue of notes by the Bank of England beyond the limit of 14,000,000*l.* on securities was regulated by their reserve of bullion, and the effect of the act of 1844 had been to increase the amount of gold in the coffers of the Bank. Another change introduced by that act was the separation of the issue and the banking departments, which afforded a security to the creditors of the Bank. Referring to the crisis of 1847, to the trials to which the act of 1844 had been subjected, owing to the abnormal state of things occasioned by the war, which led to a large exportation of bullion; to the changes in the monetary systems of certain continental countries; and to the extraordinary drain of silver to China, he thought that as, notwithstanding all these disturbing causes, the currency of this country had remained in a sound state, and the credit of the Bank had never been questioned for a moment, it did not appear expedient that any material alteration should be made in the act of 1844. He then noticed some of the points of detail which would come under the consideration of the committee. One of these points was the precise limit of the issue of notes, some desiring that the limit should be extended about 1,500,000*l.* upon the presumption that the paper circulation would thereby be enlarged to that amount. But his opinion was that the alteration would not have that result, and that it would only lead the Bank to reduce to that extent their reserve of gold. At the same time, he admitted this was a subject fairly within the consideration of the committee. Another question was whether, assuming that there should be a legislative limit to the Bank's issue of paper, a power should be vested in the Government to enable the Bank, under special circumstances, to depart from the restriction. He was, however, entirely hostile to such a proposal. He adverted



briefly to other minor points and to the laws respecting the Irish and Scotch banks. With regard to Joint-Stock Banks, he said, that as some of these establishments have failed disastrously, and as the procedure by which they are wound up is anything but satisfactory, it appeared to him that the subject is worthy of investigation by a committee; and as it would be difficult to form two committees, he proposed both subjects should be submitted to one.

A discursive debate ensued, in which no fewer than twenty members took part. Mr. DISRAELI began it by objecting to the reference of two subjects, not necessarily connected, to the same committee. He was, he said, at a loss to understand what the duties of the committee were to be, since the Government seemed to have made up its mind on all points except one of no great moment—whether the Bank of Ireland shall have permission to lend money on mortgage. The Government, no doubt, have a policy they are prepared to support; then, why not boldly submit it to the verdict of the House? The propriety of referring the Bank Act to a committee is questionable, and he would much prefer the matured views of the Government in the shape of a bill. Mr. TITE spoke against the Bank Act of 1844. Mr. GLYN expressed an opinion in favour of two committees. In his remarks on the Bank Act, his main argument was directed against the limitation on the issue of notes. Mr. HENLEY and Mr. HEADLAM mainly advocated the adoption of the suggestion that there should be two committees. Mr. MALINS put forward his views on the relation between the Bank Act and the fluctuations in the rate of discount, and contended that what the country wants is "not gold but bank notes." Mr. LAING combated the views of Mr. Malins; and from his point of view, "the whole question resolved itself into one of banking reserve," to maintain which the Act of 1844 had not made a sufficient provision. Mr. NEWDEGATE and Mr. SPOONER briefly championed their peculiar opinions. Sir CHARLES WOOD replied to Mr. Malins and Mr. Newdegate; defended the Bank Act of 1844; and, admitting the force of Mr. Disraeli's objection to one committee, intimated that the point would be conceded. Mr. MUNTZ described the appointment of the committee as "one of the greatest shams ever proposed to Parliament." Mr. HILDYARD and Mr. CAYLEY pressed on the Government the necessity of appointing a really fair committee.

That part of the motion relating to Joint-Stock Banks being struck out, the motion was agreed to as amended.

#### CHINA—THE PRINCIPALITIES.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, Lord LYNDHURST asked Lord Clarendon whether he had any objection to produce a copy of the colonial ordinance under which a register had been granted to the Chinese lorcha, the Arrow, together with a copy of the register itself? He also called attention to a recent article in the *Moniteur*, and wished to ask whether the Divans which were to meet in the Danubian Principalities were to consider the propriety of uniting those two provinces?

The Earl of CLARENDON replied that there could be no objection to produce the colonial ordinance referred to, but in respect to the register itself there was little difficulty—that it was not the custom to send home copies of such documents. With regard to the other question put by the noble lord, he had seen the article in the *Moniteur* with some surprise, but there was certainly no bar to the discussion by the Divan of a proposition for the union of the Danubian Principalities, though at the present moment he would rather not enter into any discussion of the subject.

The Earl of DERBY returned to the question of the lorcha Arrow, and to the conduct of Sir John Bowring, and pressed for the production of further papers connected with the matter.

A desultory conversation then ensued, in the course of which Lord CLARENDON promised to produce some of the papers specified.

#### SECONDARY PUNISHMENTS AND TICKETS-OF-LEAVE.

In the House of Commons, on Monday, Sir G. GREY, in moving for leave to bring in a bill to amend the act of 1853, substituting, in certain cases, other punishment in lieu of transportation, shortly stated the reasons for the change introduced by the act, namely, the cessation of a demand in the colonies for convict labour, and the general and strong feeling of the colonists against the reception of criminals,—the main provisions of the act, and the system, including tickets-of-leave, under which those provisions were carried out. He then proceeded to show what had been the effects of the act of 1853, so far as appeared from the number of sentences of transportation and penal servitude passed at different periods, the number of licences granted on the ground of good conduct, and those revoked for misconduct or forfeited by reconviction. In giving these details, Sir George explained the rules and principles which guided the Secretary of State in granting letters of licence, and declared his belief that the alarm excited by the liberation of convicts under tickets-of-leave, although to a certain extent well-founded, had been greatly exaggerated. Looking at the general state of crime in the last two years, he found that, while there was a small fractional increase in the summary convictions, the committals for trial had decreased from 25,922 in 1855 to 19,433 in 1856, or about 25 per cent., notwithstanding the disbanding of the militia. This state of things did not, he thought, justify the alarm prevalent in the country. Sir George then adverted to the reports of the committees of both Houses which sat last session, who concurred in recommending a continuance of transportation, as far as practicable. To carry this proposal into effect without a breach of the engagements entered into with the colonies, which the Government had not the remotest in-

tention to violate, was, however, the great difficulty. Western Australia was at present the only colony which would receive convicts. Its capabilities were said to be great, and the colonists had been represented to be desirous of convict labourers. After full consideration, the Government had determined to propose to give effect to the recommendation of the committee of the House of Commons, that the sentence of penal servitude should be lengthened so as to make it of the same duration as that of transportation under the old law, and they proposed to remove all obstacles to the removal of convicts sentenced to penal servitude to any possession of the Crown, so that such a sentence should carry with it, though not necessarily, removal from the country, the Government being thereby enabled to send convicts to Western Australia or to avail themselves of any additional facilities for their transportation to other penal settlements. With regard to those convicts under sentence of penal servitude who would be kept at home, he indicated his views as to the rules which should govern remissions of the sentence, and proposed, he said, to maintain the power, which he thought useful to retain, of granting the conditional licences called tickets-of-leave. A few minor points were touched upon by Sir George, one of which related to the hulk system, which was, he said, in process of abandonment.

Sir J. PAKINGTON thought the alarm regarding the ticket-of-leave system was misdirected rather than exaggerated. With respect to the proposals of Sir G. Grey, he thought it would be better to wait until the bill was before the House. The question involved two points—first, what was to be the state of the law as to secondary punishments; second, the manner in which the law was to be administered and carried out. He thought the inference which the public would draw from the comparison between the crime of 1855 and 1856 was that there had been a decrease to the extent stated by Sir G. Grey in the graver crimes, whereas by a change in the law during the interval a large class of offences, formerly left for trial, were dealt with summarily.

Mr. COLLIER contended that with respect to our worst criminals it would be far better to imprison them for life at home than to incur the expense of imprisoning them abroad.

Sir J. RAMSDEN doubted whether the advantages attending transportation, as a secondary punishment and as a reformatory process, were not overrated, though it was difficult to exaggerate its importance to the mother country. He enlarged upon the necessity of rendering imprisonment more severely penal, and enforcing the principle of separate confinement.

Mr. ADDERLEY cordially concurred with everything that had fallen from Sir G. Grey, suggesting, however, whether it would not be better to abolish altogether the ticket-of-leave provision, the few advantages attending which were overbalanced by its evils. He dwelt upon the obstacles in the way of transporting our convicts, which he attributed to the Minister who attempted to force them upon an unwilling colony.

Mr. LABOUCHERE observed that, although it might be doubted whether transportation had in all cases a deterring effect, there was no question that, as a means of disposing of a part of our criminal population, for home purposes, it was a most valuable secondary punishment. He would not say that besides Western Australia other places might not be fitted to receive convicts; but he pointed out objections to Vancouver's Island, the Gulf of Carpentaria, and the Falkland Islands. Western Australia possessed many advantages as a colony where the labour of convicts could be employed; at the same time he should not be justified, he said, in holding out an expectation that it would be available, except to a certain extent and for a certain time, the measure requiring the utmost caution and the most judicious management.

Mr. BENTINCK was favourable to penal settlements nearer home, and utilising convict labour in this country.

Mr. MILNES denied that the reformatory action had proved a failure, the contrary being shown by the state of crime during the last two years, and he strongly urged attention to the treatment of discharged prisoners.

After a few words from Mr. J. PHILLIMORE, and Mr. NEWDEGATE, Mr. LIDDELL inquired whether there would be any objection on the part of the Government to enter into a contract with the planters of British Guiana to supply them with convicts, many estates in Demerara, adapted to the growth of excellent cotton, perishing for want of labour? He thought the labour of convicts might be made otherwise available. In his reply, Sir G. GREY gave explanations relative to matters adverted to by Sir J. PAKINGTON; and, after a few words from Mr. GIBSON, leave was given to bring in the bill.

#### REFORMATORY SCHOOLS.

Sir G. GREY then moved for leave to introduce a bill to facilitate the establishment of reformatory schools in England. The Secretary of State was at present authorised to pay a certain sum for the maintenance of children placed in reformatory institutions instead of being sent to prison, and also had the power to enforce payment for their maintenance from the parents if he saw fit to do so. As, however, these institutions owed their support purely to voluntary efforts, no children could be sent there except with the consent of the managers. Now, great credit was due to those gentlemen who had devoted their attention to the important subject of endeavouring to arrest crime at its source, and the bill was not intended to interfere with their voluntary exertions. (Hear, hear.) But reformatory institutions, although increasing, were still comparatively few in number, and were not sufficient for the wants of the country. Under these circumstances, it was pressed upon him last sessions that it would be

most desirable to introduce a bill authorising counties and boroughs, out of the county and borough rate, or other funds at their disposal, to establish reformatories of this kind; and the object of the present bill was to enable them to do so. (Hear, hear.) The measure was a permissive one only. Counties and boroughs might, if they pleased, establish separate institutions of their own; or there were provisions under which they were empowered to unite for this purpose, and thus to establish by joint action a reformatory on a larger scale and more complete in its arrangements than could be formed if they acted alone. This, however, would of course be quite optional. The provisions of the law under which children would be admitted to reformatories would remain the same as at present, except that, where these institutions would be supported out of the county or borough rate, it would no longer be optional on the part of the managers to refuse to receive children who might be sent there, unless of course they happened to be full. Justices were also empowered to aid schools by grants, either by sums in gross, or by periodical payments, subject to such arrangements as might be agreed upon between the managers and the justices as to the reception of children. The bill only applied to England and Wales.

Sir J. PAKINGTON approved of the bill. He had long felt convinced that the reformatory system could not be so extensively applied as was necessary without some measure of this description. There was no point upon which greater unanimity existed than the necessity, as a matter of principle, of making parents contribute to the support of their children while in these reformatories, and he thought that it would be much better that the discretion on this point should be lodged with the court before which the case was tried, than with the Secretary of State. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. ALCOCK contrasted the money annually spent upon 100 criminal children—namely, 1,800*l.*, with the sum of 65*l.*, which the State spent in providing education for 100 children. He thought that one of the most effectual means of diminishing the number of juvenile criminals was to give a more generous support to the educational institutions of the country.

Sir G. GREY said, a great deal of money had been collected under the provisions of the act of 1854 from those parents and step-parents who were able to contribute towards the support of their children in reformatory schools. Mr. Sidney Turner, whose appointment to the office of inspector of those schools was owing to the great attention which he had devoted to the reformation of juvenile criminals, had been instructed to make the best arrangements possible for enforcing that portion of the act.

Leave was given to introduce the bill.

#### CHURCH-RATES.

Sir J. PAKINGTON, on Monday, asked whether the Government intended to bring in a bill of their own with respect to Church-rates; whether they would move amendments on the bill of the honourable baronet (Sir W. Clay), as they did last year; or whether they would abstain from all interference?

Sir G. GREY said that, looking at the number of Government bills and the amount of business to be done in the present session, he saw no prospect of advantage resulting from his introducing a bill upon the subject. As at present advised, he believed the Government would not be prepared to lay any bill with respect to Church-rates before Parliament in the present session, but he must reserve their right to move any amendments upon any bills which might be introduced by honourable members. (Hear, hear.)

#### THE WAR WITH PERSIA.

On Monday, in reply to Mr. Layard, Mr. V. SMITH said:—

Her Majesty's Government have every reason to believe that Ferukh Khan is furnished with the same powers at Paris that he possessed at Constantinople, but the circumstances are somewhat different. When Ferukh Khan arrived at Constantinople he said that he required further instructions from his Government before he could enter into a final arrangement, and that he must therefore correspond with the Court of Teheran. He left Constantinople for Paris, charged with a special mission there, and since his arrival at Paris I understand he has received definite instructions at all points. Negotiations are now pending which I trust will arrive at an amicable conclusion. (Hear, hear.) I hope that the forbearance of the House will be exercised both with regard to the papers and to any discussion of this subject. If, however, any selection from the papers can be made which may show the causes of the war without interfering with the negotiations there will be no objection to their publication.

Mr. LAYARD would avail himself of the first opportunity to move that the papers be laid on the table.

Mr. GLADSTONE said there were two points upon which the House would be glad to have information, and which would not interfere with the negotiations. In the first place he hoped the Government would produce a copy of the order under which the recent expedition sailed, and also a copy of the correspondence between the Court of Directors and the Government as to the mode in which the charge of the war should be borne. (Hear.)

Mr. V. SMITH (in answer to Sir H. Willoughby) said there would be no objection to lay upon the table a copy of the treaty of Herat.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

On Friday, Lord BROUGHAM asked whether the bill on ecclesiastical discipline will contain a provision giving the judicial committee of the Privy Council, as court of appeal, the power of obtaining the opinion of the episcopal bench on questions of dogma incidentally but most importantly coming before them. The LORD CHANCELLOR said that such a provision would be contained in the bill which he intended to lay on their Lordships' table. The course he should suggest was, that assessors should attend



the judicial committee on questions where their presence might be likely to throw light on the subject.

In the Commons, on Friday, Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE asked whether it was intended to allow the Convocation for the province of Canterbury to prolong its sitting. Sir G. GREY said the House was aware that Convocation met under a summons from the Crown, but it had not the power to make canons or to confer for that purpose without a licence from the Crown. No licence had been given this year, and he apprehended, therefore, that no act which they did could have any legality. It was in his opinion inexpedient to prolong the sittings of Convocation for mere purposes of discussion, and if the archbishop did not exercise his power of prorogation, the authority of the Crown would be called into exercise for the purpose.

Replying to Col. Buck, Sir G. GREY said it was not intended in the present session to introduce a bill, rendering it compulsory upon boroughs to amalgamate the police forces with those of the counties in which they are situated.

Replying to Mr. H. Baillie, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER announced that the Government intended to propose to repay the East India Company one half of the extra expense incurred on account of the war with Persia.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in answer to Mr. Cochrane, said it was not intended this session to introduce a bill on the subject of superannuation of the Civil Service till the commission had reported. He anticipated that the report would be in the hands of members before Easter.

In answer to Mr. Wilkinson, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he had prepared a measure which would give a guarantee from the Government to all Savings Banks willing to comply with fixed resolutions, which he considered reasonable. He would not, however, lay the measure on the table till he saw a prospect of its receiving the attention which the subject deserved.

Among the twelve peers who voted on Tuesday evening with Lord Grey, and against the Government, was Lord Aberdeen.

In the Lords, on Thursday, under cover of a question to the Secretary for War, the Earl of CARDIGAN rebutted the personal allegations against his own military character contained in a work lately published under the signature of "A Staff Officer." He complained that his request to have the author, whom he named, brought to a court-martial, had been refused by the Commander-in-Chief. Lord PANMURE remarked that the authorship of the work in question, if suspected, was not avowed, and recommended Lord Cardigan to rest contented with the high testimonials he had received from his own immediate superiors.

Mr. MOWBRAY presented a petition from a farm-labourer of Essex, stating that he had had a difference with a master for whom he had worked for a number of years, and considering that he was free, had hired himself to another master. For this he was prosecuted and sentenced to imprisonment, by which he lost the principal portion of the harvest season. The petitioner complained of these unjust proceedings, and prayed that House to take the matter into its consideration. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. SPOONER on Thursday gave notice that on that day fortnight he should move that the House resolve itself into a committee to consider the acts relating to the grants to Maynooth. (Laughter.)

In answer to Mr. Gladstone, Sir GEORGE GREY said it was not intended to keep open the vacancy occasioned by the death of Baron Alderson till the commission inquiring into the administration of justice in the Westminster Courts had reported. Great inconvenience would arise from a diminution of the number of judges at the present time.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS moved, "That notices of motion on going into committee of supply on the estimates shall have precedence only on alternate days." The consequence of the present system was, he said, that important estimates were passed without attention late at night, and he did not think it would be any great hardship to remove this privilege from members, as they had three days of the week for their motions. Mr. WYKE seconded the motion. Sir G. GREY considered the alteration proposed inexpedient, and thought that it should not under any circumstances, be made at one day's notice.

Mr. Labouchere has brought in a bill to alter the existing provisions relating to the Ecclesiastical Government of Norfolk Island. It appears that when the civil government of Norfolk Island was transferred from Tasmania to New South Wales, the transfer of the ecclesiastical government was omitted. The bill is to remedy that defect. Norfolk Island is now purged of convicts, and inhabited by the Pitcairn Islanders.

Mr. Pellatt has obtained leave and brought in a bill to amend the law relating to imprisonment for debt, to extend the remedies of creditors, and to punish fraudulent debtors.

Mr. Lowe on Friday brought in a bill for abolishing passing tolls at Dover, Whitby, Ramsgate, and Bridlington; and explained how it is proposed to provide for the debts of the harbours. Government will pay the debts of Whitby and Bridlington, and the Admiralty will take on itself the debts and liabilities of Dover. The case of Ramsgate, being more complicated, is provided for differently; the burdens are to be shared between Ramsgate and the Government. The bill was read a first time.

Mr. HORSMAN, in answer to a question put by Col. Greville, admitted that the experiment of reducing the number of commissioners of the Irish Incumbered Estates Court had failed. Government intended immediately to appoint a third commissioner. If necessary, the judicial staff would be increased.

In reply to Mr. Bentinck, Mr. Lowe said that Government had no intention to introduce any measure for preventing railway accidents. In 1856, though 125,000,000 travelled by railway, only eight were killed, and 282 were injured.

In reply to Mr. Locke, Sir B. HALL stated that the works of Westminster Bridge were suspended in accordance with the recommendation of a select committee, till the designs for the ground between Downing-street, Westminster Hall, and the Thames, had been sent in and decided upon. Copies of the regulations and instructions respecting the designs had been sent to all parts of Europe and America, and the designs would be received in the course of next month. They would be exhibited in Westminster Hall immediately after Easter, and until they had been considered by engineers and by the House, the bridge could not be proceeded with.

In the Lords, on Monday, Lord BROUGHAM brought in a bill, which he described as being intended to put a stop to frivolous suits, and establish courts of reconciliation.

In answer to Mr. Roebuck, Sir C. WOOD stated that no final determination had been arrived at respecting another Arctic expedition, but that if the Government came to the decision that such a step was expedient, they would lay the matter before Parliament, and ask for a vote of money before any preparations were made for fitting out the expedition.

#### ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

The Right Hon. W. J. Cowper was re-elected member for Hertford on Monday. The formalities of an election were rendered necessary by his new appointment as Vice-President of the Board of Education. Mr. Cowper expressed great surprise that the people should, for one moment, have imagined that it was the intention of Lord Palmerston's Government to retain the war ninepence. The Government had been looking closely at the expenditure of the country, they had been reducing the army largely—they were proposing to do the same with the navy, and when the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as he would do very shortly, placed the estimates before the House of Commons of the expenditure for the current year, they would see that he would be in a position to take off the war portion of the income-tax. There was no doubt in his own mind, that the tax could not be continued in its present shape; and he thought it was a matter for grave consideration whether the tax ought to be continued till 1861, or whether it should altogether cease. He thought it ought not to be kept up as an ordinary source of revenue, but reserved for periods of difficulty. He then referred to the Church-rates, and said he was in favour of their abolition; and after some observations upon the necessity of sanitary reform, he briefly explained the nature of the new office of Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education, to which he himself had been appointed, and which, though he was fully impressed with the responsibility of it, he should earnestly endeavour to discharge successfully.

Sir Richard Bethell was also re-elected on Monday, without opposition, for the borough of Aylesbury. His recent appointment as Attorney-General rendered his re-election necessary. His speech was wholly destitute of political interest.

The nomination for Greenwich also took place on Monday, and with remarkable expedition, for the proceedings only lasted about a quarter of an hour. The candidates nominated were General Codrington and Mr. Sleigh,—the one a Crimean chief, the other a metropolitan journalist. As usual on all such occasions, both are confident of success. Some observations were made by General Codrington at one of the meetings indicative of his objection to the abandonment of corporal punishment in the army, and this seemed to be his most grievous offence in the opinion of the crowd before the hustings. A huge and formidable looking cat-o'-nine-tails was fastened to the end of a pole, and vigorously waved in front of the General, while he was essaying to address the electors. The show of hands was in favour of Mr. Sleigh.

The nomination of candidates for the representation of Southampton took place on Monday amid scenes of indescribable uproar. The candidates are the Hon. Sir E. Butler, Mr. Weguelin, of the Bank of England, and Mr. Andrews, the late Mayor. The Conservative candidate created immense uproar by saying that Mr. Weguelin had made a sad mistake in attaching himself to the dirty lot he had. (Tremendous uproar, and cries of "Who do you call the dirty lot?") Sir E. Butler said: Allow me to explain. Mr. Weguelin's friends said to the honourable gentleman, "Withdraw that statement, or you shall not go on," and there was continued uproar. These personalities continued for some time. The show of hands was declared to be in favour of Mr. Andrews by a large majority. The excitement in the town is intense, and the contest will be the hardest fought ever remembered in this borough. Every hour the walls are covered and the windows filled with fresh placards, bearing on the election.

Mr. Frewin, in his retiring address, explains to the electors of East Sussex how he comes to stand for North Leicestershire: "As I am anxious to do all in my power to prevent, if possible, this division of Leicestershire from being represented by a noble lord who has, on all occasions, given his support to Popery, I have resolved to resign my seat as one of your members, and contest North Leicestershire with him." The district of Brighton and Hove now represents a considerable portion of the constituency, and a severe contest between the present candidates, Viscount Pevensey and Mr. J. G. Dodson, may be expected. At a meeting of the friends of the latter at Brighton,

some discussion took place on the Maynooth grant; opposition to that being a battle-horse much trusted by Lord Pevensey, the Tory candidate. Mr. Dodson is opposed to all new grants to particular religious bodies, and in favour of a measure for extinguishing equitably that to Maynooth.

Mr. H. W. Schneider has withdrawn his claims to the representation of Hull, and Mr. James Clay is now the only candidate.

Sir R. Price has resigned his seat for Hereford. Mr. George Clive, youngest son of the late Mr. E. B. Clive, who for so many years represented Hereford in Parliament, has come forward as a candidate. He is a Liberal in politics, and in favour of the ballot. A second candidate has appeared in the person of Mr. W. T. Kevill Davies, a county magistrate and landowner, residing at Croft-castle, near Leominster. The nomination will take place to-morrow.

A deputation of the Conservative electors of North Leicestershire waited upon Lord John Manners, at Belvoir Castle, on Wednesday last requesting his opinions upon the following questions, namely: As to the endowment of Maynooth, Roman Catholic processions, the endowment of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland, the Irish Established Church, convents, the subject of mortmain, Sunday sports and Sunday bands. Upon the whole of these subjects his lordship's answers were declared satisfactory; and the deputation have issued a placard, calling upon the electors to support him as the Protestant Conservative candidate.

The nomination for a representative for West Kent is fixed for Monday next, at Penenden Heath, near Maidstone. The polling will take place in the various districts on the following Thursday.

#### Foreign and Colonial.

##### FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* contains an article on the union of the Danubian principalities. It says that the Plenipotentiary of France at the Conference of Vienna had stated it as his opinion that it was the combination best suited to assure to those provinces the strength necessary to become a bulwark for the Ottoman Empire. The French Government has not ceased to profess the same opinion, and what has recently taken place between it and the other Cabinets has only tended to confirm it in its convictions. It does not despair of seeing them prevail in the councils of the Powers, and that the one most interested will admit that the union of the Principalities has nothing which is not completely in accordance with the rights of suzerainty of the Sublime Porte with regard to the Danubian Principalities.

The *Moniteur du Loiret* says that everything that Verger wrote during his imprisonment has been burnt by the authorities.

It was reported that, with a view to the general elections, the Government intends to take off twelve millions of taxes from real property, and also one of the war decimes, and as a compensation to put on a property-tax upon all land belonging to companies.

The body of the Princess Lieven has been embalmed and sent to Russia. A funeral service was performed over the corpse on Wednesday at the Lutheran Chapel, in the Rue Chauchat. The deceased Princess did not belong to the orthodox Greek Church. She has left by her will a life annuity of 8,000 francs to M. Guizot. It is most confidently said that M. Guizot was privately married to the Princess. At all events, his daughters as well as himself have gone into deep mourning for her.

##### PRUSSIA AND SWITZERLAND.

There is a hitch with respect to the negotiations. The Prussian Ministerial journal, the *Zeit*, declares no negotiation to have been yet entered into between Prussia and Switzerland. It moreover throws doubt on the assertion in the *Bund* (official organ of the Swiss Federal Government), that an early assembling of the Conference concerning Neuchâtel will take place at Paris.

##### ITALY.

It is stated that the Neapolitan Government is anxious to resume friendly relations with England and France; and that the representatives of a great Power at Paris and London have been employed to place the King's proposition regarding the exile of the political prisoners before the Cabinets of St. James's and the Tuileries.

A letter from St. Petersburg states that M. de Kakoschine, the Russian Minister at Naples, has received orders again to call the attention of the King to the possible consequences of persisting in the political system which he now pursues, in opposition to public opinion, and contrary to the formally expressed wishes of the Western Powers.

It has been said that the Emperor of Austria would proceed from Milan to Florence, and afterwards to Rome and Loretto. We are now told that this plan is altered, and that the Emperor will return to Austria direct from Lombardy.

Further accounts have come to hand respecting the bearing of the Austrian amnesty on Italians in exile. They are at liberty to apply for permission to return home; and of the application be made in "a proper manner," it will be granted—"even to Manin." Some strong accusations are made against the Emperor. He is said to have told Count Litta, that if there were a revolution the nobles should not be protected from the mob.

The assassin of the Archbishop of Matera has declared that he wished to reform the church. During the examination of the witnesses of his crime, he showed the greatest violence and excitement.



## TURKEY AND THE PRINCIPALITIES.

News from Constantinople has arrived to the 29th January. A despatch from Vienna had been received in the Turkish capital, announcing that the evacuation of Moldavia and Wallachia will be complete by the 24th March. The Turkish troops, it is said, will be sent into the Principalities, but they will not pass the Danube until the departure of the Austrians. The question of the union of the Principalities is rumoured to be gaining ground, and it is believed that the majority of the Divans will be gained over to it. The Porte, meantime, limits itself to the refusal of a foreign prince as their governor. The Porte has taken official possession of the Delta of the Danube. The Turkish Government, considering that the decisions of the Hospodars of Moldavia and Wallachia have illegally sentenced a number of citizens of the two principalities to exile, order that the provinces shall be open for the return of these banished men. Great works of embankment on the Euphrates are projected. The plans have been sent from London. The Arabs disturb those districts.

## GREECE.

A letter from Athens, dated the 28th of January, mentions that the protecting Powers had made certain propositions to King Otho relative to his finances, and which have been accepted by his Majesty; that the Powers further required that the King should change his Ministers and appoint others more disposed towards the Western Governments, and that the King has consented to that arrangement, but on condition that the foreign troops shall first evacuate the Piræus. Vessels have left Toulon to bring back the French troops.

## AMERICA.

On the 23rd ultimo, the Atlantic Telegraph Bill passed the Senate by a vote of twenty-nine against eighteen. It was passed on the 23rd. The only disturbing anxiety about the line is, that no guarantee can be given for its use in time of war. The termini are on British territory, and it is conceded that this is unavoidable; but the possession of one of them is not enough to secure the communication. Mr. Seward stated his belief that the telegraph would prove one of the greatest agents in preventing war.

In the House of Representatives, the bill compelling the attendance and testimony of witnesses before committees of Congress was further discussed, and finally passed by a vote of 103 to 12. It was then sent to the Senate, where it was referred, and immediately reported back; and it would have passed, but for the interposition of Mr. Wilson, who objected.

Despatches from Washington say that General Cass will not have a seat in Buchanan's Cabinet.

The Committee on Territories will, it is understood, report a bill cancelling the whole body of the laws of Kansas, on the ground that they are invalid, having been passed by a Legislature imposed on the people by non-residents. The formidable minority of the Republican party has had an immediate influence on the policy of the Government with regard to Kansas; and the change of that policy has compelled the Proslavery invasion to abandon the field as hopeless, though at one period the free settlers appeared to have been "crushed out."

Mr. Charles Sumner has accepted his election as Senator, but it is doubtful whether his health will allow him to take his seat during any part of this session.

The weather continued extremely severe throughout the continent. Lake Erie was frozen—apparently from shore to shore. The Mississippi was frozen across as far as Pittsburg. In Maine, the thermometer had indicated 40 degrees below zero.

Walker was reported to be in a better condition than ever, and to have 1,200 able-bodied men at Rivas, well supplied with provisions and ammunition, while at Punta Arenas was a body of nearly 300 men under Colonel Longbridge, who intended to attack the Costa Ricans at Castillo and San Carlos, and retake the river, as soon as he had the means of transportation.

## PERSIA.

The Gazette of Teheran has published a "document" described as laying great stress on the injustice of England in declaring war pending the negotiations that had been opened at Constantinople. This manifesto concludes by announcing the despatch of an army to oppose the progress of the English expedition. The capture of Bushire had only determined the Shah to display greater vigour in defence of his kingdom. Our forces at Bushire are represented as preparing to march into the interior. The capture of Herat has excited great enthusiasm amongst the Turcomans in favour of Persia. The Khan of Khiva has sent an ambassador extraordinary to the Shah.

A despatch by way of Constantinople informs us that Russia has applied to the Shah for permission to occupy the province of Mazenderan, which forms the southern coast of the Caspian Sea. This seems to be done on the principle of compensation. The Bours Gazette of Berlin, speaks of a recent visit from Prince Gortschakoff to the English Cabinet, declaring that Russia is willing to support the demand of England relative to the evacuation of Herat; but that she cannot approve of the other claims of the English Cabinet, the consequence of which would be to unduly weaken and humiliate Persia; and that she would not on any condition allow England to obtain the accomplishment of them by force. The Nord says respecting the subject:—

As for such a circular note, it does not exist. We do not certainly mean to say, that the cabinet of St. Petersburg may not have spoken of that matter, as of many other matters, in its ordinary diplomatic correspondence, or that it may not have expressed the view which it takes of that question. A partial or entire communication of these despatches may have been made

to the cabinets which are interested in the question, by the Russian representatives who are accredited to them; but as for a circular note, setting forth a plan of conduct and a fixed decision, there has been no such thing.

## AUSTRALIA.

The advices by the Morning Light, from Melbourne, reach to the 14th November. With the return of summer the production of gold was again becoming large, but although the miners were prosperous the prices of imported goods were effectually kept down by the arrivals from England, which promised to be much beyond the general wants of the colony. The stocks of provisions were heavy, and quotations in most cases were falling.

Mr. Donaldson, the new treasurer, had submitted the Ministerial budget to the assembly. He said that at the end of 1855 the deficit in the revenue was not less than 120,000*l.*, the accumulation of former deficits. The present Administration intended to raise 150,000*l.* by terminable annuities. The prospects of the country were cheering. The estimated income was 1,200,000*l.*, and was in excess of the expenditure. The new Legislature had been announced to meet on the 21st of November. In order to enter on the event with *éclat* there would be a general cessation of business on that day.

Melbourne and its vicinity have been visited by a wind and sand storm surpassing in intensity any which had been experienced in the colony. Considerable damage was occasioned by it.

The gold-fields at Fingal, Tasmania, though limited in extent, were profitable. At Bendigo the diggers were doing well; among them were several hundred Italians. At Chinaman's Flat immense quantities of gold are being got from the washing stuff. Five Scotchmen who were working a tunnel at Horley River had been buried alive by the earth falling in. There had been rushes at Tuena diggings, and some parties had done well. The accounts from the other gold-fields present the same cheering features.

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The General Steam Navigation Company's favourite steamship Ravensbourne, Captain R. Bacon, was lost off Antwerp on Sunday evening. It is supposed that in coming out of the harbour a heavy sea caught her bow and threw her against the pier head, where she stove in her bows and sustained considerable damage. Captain Bacon succeeded in landing the passengers, but failed in his efforts to get the unfortunate ship ashore before she went down. The crew happily escaped in the boats.

An outline of the arrangement for the settlement of the question of the Sound Dues has been made public. The King of Denmark undertakes to keep up lights, beacons, and buoys free of cost, and to reduce the land transit duty; and the contracting states, parties to the treaty, agree to pay in return for the dues formerly levied 30,570,698 rixdollars, according to quotas already agreed upon. The quotas are to be paid within twenty years, in half-yearly instalments.

The concession for a telegraph through Egypt and the Red Sea to India has been granted by the Turkish government to Messrs. Gisborne. The line from Alexandria to Suez is to pass along the railway line.

A letter from Alexandria of the 24th ult. states that intelligence has been received there of the death of Theodore, the King of Abyssinia.

It is reported that the Emperor of Russia will be in Paris in the month of April.

## OFFICIAL PAPERS ON THE CHINESE WAR.

The papers relating to the proceedings of Her Majesty's naval forces at Canton were published on Saturday. They include the despatches from Sir John Bowring to the Earl of Clarendon, Admiral Seymour's despatches to the Admiralty, the respective correspondence between Sir John Bowring, Admiral Seymour, and Consul Parkes, and with the Chinese authorities; documents relative to the proceedings of the French and American representatives, together with a variety of papers, the substance of which has already been made known. There is also an appendix including papers respecting the right of British subjects to have free entrance into Canton, and copies of the treaties between Her Majesty and the Emperor of China, signed in August, 1842, and October, 1843, besides the convention of Bocca Tigris, signed in April, 1846, and Commissioner Keying's "agreement" of April, 1847. The papers are of no great value, and contain but scanty indication of the opinion of our Government. On the 10th December, 1856, the Earl of Clarendon wrote a letter to Sir John Bowring, justifying the course he had pursued. His lordship says:—

I have consulted the law officer of the Crown on this matter, and I have now to state to you, that I am of opinion that this act of the Chinese authorities constitutes an infraction of Article IX. of the Supplementary Treaty.

The only possible defence open to them appears to be that the Arrow was not "an English merchant ship" within the true intent and meaning of the Treaty; but Article XVII. Rule I., in the Supplementary Treaty, recognises and includes this particular class of vessel; she had a British master, British colours, and papers, and even if her license had been improperly granted in August, 1854, this was a matter of British internal regulation, and to be dealt with by the British authorities. This point is evidently an after-thought on the part of the Chinese, and the only evidence of it is the uncorroborated assertion of one of the crew whilst in custody. No British *lorcha* would be safe if her crew were liable to seizure on such grounds.

I have further to observe that there do not seem to have been any such circumstances of urgency in this case as would afford any justification or excuse for the arbitrary conduct of the Chinese authorities, who were,

probably, emboldened by the absence of any of Her Majesty's ships from Canton. The Arrow was bound to Hong Kong, and if any of her crew could be identified as having been guilty of piracy, or were even suspected of it, there would have been no difficulty in securing their apprehension and delivery had the Chinese authorities taken the course indicated by Art. IX., viz., communicating with the British Consul. Only two of her crew were charged with piracy, viz., Le-ming-tao, and Liang-kien-foo, the third detained (Woo-a-jen) is apparently only wanted as a witness; and there was not the slightest pretext for seizing the other nine, who were afterwards released.

The accidental and temporary absence of the British master on board a neighbouring vessel could not affect the question. The British flag is clearly proved (by the deposition of Kennedy and Leach) to have been hauled down by the Chinese Mandarin crew, notwithstanding the denial of this fact by the Imperial Commissioner; but even if the flag had not been actually flying at the moment, it is obvious that the national character of the *lorcha* was well known to the authorities.

The expiration of the Arrow's sailing licence on September 27, previous to her seizure, does not appear to have been known to the Chinese authorities; and this, again, is a matter of British regulation which would not justify seizure by the Chinese.

The principle involved in this case is most important, and the demands made by Mr. Consul Parkes appear to me to be very moderate under the circumstances. I consider that the re-delivery of the three men still detained, and a subsequent formal demand for their extradition before they are given up again, should be insisted on as a *sine qua non*. They must be considered as having been forcibly taken in breach of treaty, and without any justification or excuse, from on board a British vessel, and illegally detained in custody by the orders of the Imperial Commissioner, with full knowledge of all the circumstances and in defiance of a formal demand by the British Consul.

Under all the circumstance of the case, I approve of the intention to seize and hold one of the imperial junks as security for the redress which the High Commissioner has been called upon to afford in this case.

Lord Clarendon, it also appears, entirely approves of the part which Admiral Seymour took in the bombardment of Canton. Mr. Hammond, his secretary, writing to the secretary of the admiral, January 10, says that "the admiral's conduct should be entirely approved, and more especially the judgment, firmness, and moderation with which he has acted; and the respect which he has shown for the lives and properties of the Chinese people." Further, on the 10th of January, Lord Clarendon himself wrote as follows to Sir J. Bowring:—

I have received your despatch of the 23rd October last, with a report of the operations in the Canton river; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the course which has been adopted by Rear-Admiral Sir Michael Seymour and yourself; and I have to instruct you also to convey to Mr. Parkes a similar approval of his conduct.

Count de Courcy, the French representative, expressed to Sir John Bowring his "moral adhesion" to the course taken by the British authorities, and his recognition of the fact that our common interests direct us towards the revision of our treaties with China.

## PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

The total income of the United Kingdom for the year ended the 30th September, 1856, amounted to 71,348,066*l.*, and the total expenditure to 83,307,477*l.*, leaving a deficit of 16,959,411*l.* The Customs yielded 23,093,300*l.*; the Excise, 17,861,777*l.*; stamps, 7,180,041*l.*; taxes, 3,100,026*l.*; the income, or, as it is here called, the "Property-tax," 15,940,330*l.*; and the Post-office, 2,768,152*l.* As regards the expenditure, 28,625,517*l.* was appropriated to the charge of the public debt; 1,750,321*l.* to the charges on the consolidated fund (including the civil list salaries and courts of justice); and 57,931,638*l.* to the supply services. Of these last the army and Ordnance cost the country 28,094,824*l.*, a sum equal to the interest of the debt; the navy, 17,608,995*l.*; the vote of credit (war with Russia), 1,410,000*l.*; miscellaneous civil services, 6,693,172*l.*; and the salaries of revenue departments, 4,124,626*l.* The balances of public money in the Exchequer on the 30th September amounted to 7,084,743*l.* In the year ended the 31st December last the income was 72,218,988*l.*, and the expenditure 82,323,400*l.*, leaving a deficit of 10,104,412*l.*, or less by 600,000*l.* than at the end of the preceding quarter. The produce of the income-tax for the year was 16,028,421*l.* The balance of public money at the end of the year amounted to the sum total of 6,942,427*l.*

At a meeting held in the aristocratic city of Bath on Thursday night, a unanimous opinion was expressed, not only against the continued imposition of the war ninepence, but against the aggressive military policy of the Government. The representatives of the city, Captain Scobell and Mr. Tite, enunciated views at the meeting in entire harmony with those of their constituents. Ipswich and Norwich have also pronounced against the Persia and Chinese wars.

A public meeting in furtherance of the new plan of national education which is to be brought out this session, was held on Friday night, in the Free-trade Hall, Manchester. The audience was very numerous. The meeting was presided over by Thomas Bazley, Esq., who was supported on the platform by Sir J. Pakington, Bart., M.P., Sir J. Kaye Shuttleworth, &c. Excuses for non-attendance were received from Lord Stanley, Mr. Cobden, Mr. W. Brown, M.P., &c. Mr. Entwistle, Canon Richson, Alderman Harvey, &c., moved the resolutions; and Sir J. Kaye Shuttleworth and Sir John Pakington afterwards addressed the meeting.



## Spirit of the Press.

The first night of the session put Her Majesty's Government confessedly in a disadvantageous position. Lord Palmerston's friends, says the *Spectator*, look grave, and the hopes of his enemies are rising. "It remains to be seen, however, how a Cabinet devoid of political relations can continue to carry on her Majesty's Government in the political arena of Parliament. . . . At present the Government appears to have left the political initiative for any public men or parties who please to take it up; the Government contenting itself with the humbler duty of carrying on the administration. Perhaps this is inherent in the character or position of Lord Palmerston." Our contemporary thus describes Mr. Disraeli's new position:—

Mr. Disraeli has for some time been under a difficulty in providing a mission for the party of which he is still the coryphæus; and at last one has been provided for him by the public out of doors. There is a growing dissatisfaction with the Income-tax, and at the prospect of a vast military expenditure when military exigencies have ceased. He has not neglected the opportunity: while retaining his lead as Conservative-in-Chief, he has made himself, *pro hac vice*, tribune of the people; and he has managed, with great dexterity, to establish himself in a very favourable position; deriving advantage from the inevitable action of the public out of doors, the now unconcealed course of Mr. Gladstone, the occasional movements of Lord John Russell, and the constant bearing of the Manchester party.

The *Press* is jubilant on the subject. The Conservatives (it says) have certainly no reason for being dissatisfied with the Parliamentary proceedings on "the first night of the session." It may be noticed that the *Times* has become less zealous in defence of the Palmerston Government, and now apologises for, rather than defends, the Persian and Chinese wars. There is a decided tendency to trimming in the leading journal, which thus notices the reconciliation of Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Disraeli:—

When Mr. Disraeli, the other night, was scattering roses upon Mr. Gladstone's head, it was difficult to avoid the conclusion that, after all, that eloquent speaker must greatly deserve the confidence of the nation, since he could win such compliments from his bitterest parliamentary foe. When the grateful Gladstone, in return, brought into prominent relief the more striking portions of Mr. Disraeli's address, and in honeyed accents wooed him to repeat at the table the secret history of that awful treaty which, as the frivolous Premier declared, existed only in the imaginations of Parisian fly-catchers, equally irresistible was the conclusion that, if this unhappy country is to be saved, Mr. Disraeli will have a large share in the salvage. It was not only the matter, but the manner of the *res geste* which was so significant. Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Disraeli were, as our French neighbours would say, *aux petits soins* with each other. Each would obviously have wished to help the other on with his great-coat. At one or other period of our lives most of us (with the exception of Mr. Baron Bramwell, as he has himself informed us) have been in that mood in which an enamelled locket is considered as much a "necessary" as a pair of stout boots in wet weather. Such was the mood of Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Gladstone the other night with regard to each other. After all it was a strange scene, and the significance of it does not lie very deep below the surface. The present position of Mr. Gladstone—we should rather say the position which before Tuesday night he seemed resolved to retain—is, or was, hopeless enough. How could a gentleman, however unquestionable his ability or oratorical his power, ever hope to attain to office in this country when he condemned himself not to act with either one or other of the great parties into which the house is divided? We use the term advisedly, although it is the fashion to say that parties are at an end. Traditions, however, and common sympathies and common prejudices, have not yet completely lost their force upon great occasions. Let the great mass of members run riot as wild as they will when there is nothing serious at stake, yet, when the question substantially arises as to whether the representatives of the past or the future shall carry on the business of this country, the opposing phalanxes will keep step and time to admiration. Now, in neither of these arrays could Mr. Gladstone serve or command. It is not, therefore, surprising that he should make a step forward to regain the confidence of his penultimate friends. Alone, or only with the support, which is daily decreasing in power, of the late Sir R. Peel's pupils or Paladins, he can do but little. In the Lower House he must fight the battle well-nigh single-handed, and in the Upper Chamber the case is still more desperate. Let not the British public therefore groan over Mr. Gladstone, because he seeks to replace himself under conditions which will open to him once more the possibility of an administrative career. We have often enough had occasion to challenge his acts and to differ from his conclusions, but we are ready to acknowledge that it would be a great pity that the country should be permanently deprived of the services of so efficient a man. We must always remember that if Mr. Gladstone and his friends are under a Parliamentary taboo, which, with the exception of the brief period of the Aberdeen Administration, has spoilt their political career for upwards of ten years, it is because they did resolve, at all hazards, to carry the principle of Free Trade. The subsequent acts of a man who has proved himself capable of so considerable a sacrifice should be liberally construed. After all, a General must sigh for an army.

The *Examiner* makes merry over "the loves of the financiers"—Mr. Gladstone wooing the amiable and accomplished Mademoiselle Disraeli, just returned from Paris, where she had been to give the last polish to her education—

It was not good for Gladstone to be alone. We can imagine him addressing his new flame in a stanza of Shelley's:—

Nothing in this world is single;  
All things, by decree divine,  
In each other's being mingle,  
Why not I in thine?

It is quite interesting to trace the *petits soins* of the adoring swain through the smitten Gladstone's speech or serenade of Tuesday. He sees something nice or just in all his Disraeli's statements, he touches and touches his pictures, waters his flowers, brings out his points, and delights to point out all the hidden or neglected beauties. Does his Dizzie make a vow? Gladstone echoes it. Has his Dizzie a resolution that will not be Gladstone's also? How tender and touching is all this. It makes one young again, and we feel as if violets and roses were springing under our feet in January. Dear Gladstone! Dearest Dizzie! "Ma belle!"—"Ma mie!" But we understand it is covenanted between the parties, with pleasant reference to their old quarrel, that when he cries "Budget," she is to cry, "Mum!"

The *Leader* is speculative on the new "situation," but scarcely expects a change of Government:—

The question whether a general election is to take place this year or the next depends on the spirit of the House of Commons. If the cabinet can retain a working majority until the autumn, it is not improbable that Lord Palmerston will defer his appeal to the country until the summer of 1858. We doubt his capacity in this respect, however. Parliament has already exhibited some restlessness; the Tory leaders have committed themselves to a systematic course of opposition; Earl Grey and Lord Brougham in the Peers, and Lord John Russell and Mr. Gladstone in the Commons, seem disposed to aim at an active and hostile policy, and Lord Palmerston is in no way inclined to conciliate support by the adoption of a liberal programme.

Nothing, says our contemporary, is to be expected from the actual Administration, unless it be compelled to adopt "Reform" as an election cry.

It appears, however, that the expected understanding between the two financiers cannot be easily accomplished. While all sane Conservatives rejoice at the prospect of re-union with their former friends, a lunatic few go about wailing, and vowing that if ever the seceders of 1846 are forgiven and re-admitted to political communion, the glory will have departed from the temple of Toryism, and they will feel bound, in pious vengeance, to turn over to the Whigs. The *Daily News* indicates that Mr. Spooner and Lord Ranelagh are at the head of the malcontents, and states that a sort of round-robin has been in circulation during the last few days, the purport of which is to warn Lord Derby against any resumption of intimate relations with Mr. Gladstone and Sir James Graham. Our Liberal contemporary believes that a personal reconciliation has been brought about between the ex-Chancellors by the agency of a plausible and good-humoured member for a western county, but asks who will undertake to accommodate the votes of unreasonable country gentlemen to the joint-stock policy of their chiefs? So long as mutual aid is requisite in cutting down estimates and taxes, mutual aid will be readily given. But—

Lord Palmerston has never been a stiff-necked politician in matters of finance; and he will submit to suffer Lord Parnham's and Sir Cornwall Lewis's measures to be cut down to any extent rather than embarrass the Queen by a crisis, or disturb the country by a dissolution. And so it will be with regard to other matters. Coalesced oppositions may waylay with impunity one and all of his legislating colleagues; our imperturbable Premier will sit by and see Sir George Grey, Mr. Lowe, and the Attorney-General each in his turn hustled, garrotted, and robbed of his small bills, without evincing the slightest anxiety or concern. Concert and co-operation in all proceedings of this kind we expect to witness this session, as we witnessed last, between Lord Aberdeen's lieutenants in the Lower House and Lord Derby's; and as a fellow-feeling makes men wondrous kind, it is likely enough that friendships may spring up between accomplices in mischief, calculated to strengthen the hopes of a future confederacy in power. But the manifest fear of being thought prematurely intimate is betrayed in the tone of their respective organs. Mr. Disraeli may in secret rejoice over the return of the Lost Tribes; but no where do these wanderers openly acknowledge that they are about to come back to the Conservative fold. The *Press* is more complimentary to Mr. Gladstone than the *Saturday Review* as yet ventures to be to Mr. Disraeli. There is a feeling on both sides that appearances must be preserved a little longer; and though the reunited leaders may have together taken the measure of the orchard wall, they obviously agree in considering that the golden pippins are not yet ripe, and that they had better bide their time. Let Mr. Spooner and his associates, then, be comforted. The constitutional sky may fall some day or other; but there is really no cause to apprehend such a catastrophe before Easter.

Our notice of party politics could hardly be complete without a reference to a portentous manifesto issued on Saturday by the *Inquirer*, which, as the mouthpiece of the great body of its co-religionists, reminds Unitarian Members of Parliament of the course which the best interests of their faith and their country require them to pursue. The question, as our contemporary puts it, is whether the dozen Unitarian members should unite with Liberal Churchmen (like Palmerston and Stanley), or with orthodox Dissenters? Quite a glowing picture is drawn of the principles and policy of the former, and then we have the following description of what the latter require:—

Jealous of a rival more successful, more highly educated, more tolerant, than themselves, they would destroy the Church of England in order to exalt their own narrow sects. They wish to deprive the Church of the support

and assistance of the State, and so they raise the cry that religion is in bonds. They profess to consider a State grant an incubus; and State support turns, in their jaundiced sight, into "State patronage and control." They believe in no education but what they give themselves, and prefer that the poor children of the labourer or the mechanic should pass through life untaught even to read or write, unless with their first lessons be instilled a Calvinistic theology or a homily on the sins of the Church of England. The welfare of England is as nothing to these men as compared with the fostering of some sectarian aversion. Better (they think) repudiate a Royal promise, than give some dozen poor Presbyterian ministers a fragment from a Royal gift. Better convulse Ireland from side to side, than allow a few hundred pounds each year to the teachers and guides of the great mass of the Irish nation.

Can any Unitarian hesitate as to which of these parties deserves his confidence, or which of these policies his reason most approves?

But we are reminded by the Orthodox Dissenters of our common Nonconformity, and our common subservience to a dominant Church. To this we would reply that we approve the principle of a National Church, and, as English Presbyterians, have more love for the Church of England than for the Independents or the Baptists. We would tell them that, as Unitarians, we prefer an Arminian clergyman to a Calvinistic preacher—that, as Christians, we have greater respect for a tolerant and enlightened Church than for a fanatical and ignorant sect. We would tell them that we distrust their overtures and their promises. It was they who deprived us of the Lady Hewley Fund, and, but for the liberal Churchmen, would have taken from us the old chapels of our ancestors. It was they who openly insulted us at the Bible Society, and secretly schemed our exclusion from the British and Foreign Schools. It was they who closed the doors of the Milton Club on us, who worship as the poet worshipped before. It is they, who make use of our influence and our money, and having got what they can, treat us as the cuckoo treats the hedge sparrow, and turn us from the very societies which we were the first to establish.

We have learnt wisdom at length in a school of hard experience, and take the lessons of the past as the best monuments for the future. Between us and the Orthodox Dissenters is a great gulf of bitter memories, of opposed principles, of antagonistic aims. Only this we must promise them, that should they ever be persecuted by the Church as they have persecuted us, we will forget all and forgive all, to vindicate the right, and assist the weaker cause. Till then they must expect no sympathy or support from the Unitarians of England.

How far the *Inquirer* now represents the Unitarian body we know not—perhaps some of our readers of that persuasion can answer. Our contemporary will no doubt be horrified to know that one or two influential Unitarians are on the Council of the Religious Liberation Society, that Orthodox Dissenters and Unitarians are in alliance in Manchester to obtain a rate-supporting system of education and the reform of School Endowments, and that Mr. Heywood, M.P., and Mr. S. Courtauld, are actually going to fraternise with "Orthodox Dissenters" next Wednesday at the hospitable board of the London Tavern. Our contemporary was once not so bitterly sectarian in spirit, and we will not speculate as to the cause of the change that has come over its political faith.

Mr. Disraeli's story about the secret treaty between France and Austria has yet to be authenticated. The *Press* is quite oracular on the subject, and does not believe he will allow the denial of the Prime Minister to pass in silence. "We await the issue with anxiety," says our nervous contemporary. "The end is not yet." After such a solemn declaration, who will believe even a journal so near the Tuileries as the *Constitutionnel*, when it declares, without circumlocution, that the story is "only a fable."

The truth is, that in conformity with its policy of peace and moderation, France informed Austria, during the war, that it was not her intention to seek to make conquests in any part of Europe, and that consequently France would not disturb Austria in her Italian possessions. But this seems to us a widely different thing from the language attributed to the Emperor's Government by Mr. Disraeli. Between not attacking a power and engaging to defend it—between not desiring to appropriate its possessions and undertaking to guarantee them in their integrity, there is the width of an abyss.

The Manchester educationists, though now rejoicing in the combined leadership of Sir J. Pakington and Mr. Cobden, don't find much encouragement in the *Times*, which is satisfied to go on with the present system. After stating, on the authority of Sir J. Shuttleworth, that by the last census 2,000,000 children were receiving some kind of education; that there are now 4,000 certificated teachers, and 10,300 pupil teachers; that the education grant for the present year will amount to 540,000*l.*, and will, at the present rate of increase, amount to 1,000,000*l.* sterling within three years' time, the *Times* comes to this conclusion:—

But the fact that half the children within the possible years of instruction were actually at school on one given day, and that consequently the far larger part of them must at some time or other receive the elements of education, gives proof of the system having merits which should cause it not to be lightly abandoned.

The leading journal thinks that even in the manufacturing districts the proposed local rate would prove a failure—

For the greater part of the country we think, therefore, that the present system should be allowed to work and produce its own results. It is no disgrace, however, to an institution that it is not universally applicable, and the voluntary system can hardly be left unaided in



localities which it is too clear are unable or unwilling to originate anything for themselves.

The *Daily News* also appears to be backward in supporting the wholesale proposition of the Manchester educationists, and advises that attention should at present be concentrated on vagrant and destitute children. It suggests the creation of district schools for the 50,000 children in workhouses with a staff of teachers. "To these ought to be added the 250,000 who are already a burden on the ratepayers, but whose education is totally neglected." The *Daily News* is in favour of the plan recommended by the late meeting at Birmingham for the removal of obstacles to education which proposes that Industrial and District Schools should, after inspection by the school inspector, be certified by the Secretary of State as schools to which vagrant and destitute children may be sent; and that the cost of maintaining such children should be thrown—first, on the Union; next, on the parish, if the child have a settlement in any; thirdly, on the parent to the extent of his capacity. In the course of this article, the *Daily News* says: "From a circular that has reached us from Lord Shaftesbury, we much fear that the present position of a large number of the metropolitan ragged-schools is such as to create great anxiety for their permanence." In another article, our contemporary declares in favour of the present system under the Minutes of Council. The educational bodies are, in many instances, doing their work well, and it would be a pity that they should be interrupted, at least at present, in their operations by a Government measure. At the same time, it would be as well that bodies which are working without any bond of co-operation or any feeling of union, should have some common centre to which their labours might tend. Having expressed the opinion that this centre is to be found in the Society of Arts, the writer concludes with these words of caution:—

If the Society of Arts can extend their operations, hitherto conducted with so much success, throughout the whole of England, they will have gone far to establish a middle-class university. Detached from the processes of education, and only occupied with testing its results, they will be looked upon without suspicion by all sects and denominations. The inducements they hold out to masters and pupils to exert themselves will have the effect of stimulating education in a remarkable manner. They will do this without requiring grants for school-houses or professors. If, however, they wish to steer clear of difficulties, they should preserve their present freedom from Government control. At present they have the confidence of the country; if they surrender the management of their scheme into the hands of Government, the public will involuntarily think of jobbery or disorganisation. They have obtained the confidence of the public by their intelligence and independence. If they give up one, the public will be loth to give them credit for the other.

The *Morning Star* and *Economist* declare that the principle of direct taxation is at issue in the demand for a repeal of the Income-tax, and ably argue for its retention. The latter treats as chimerical the notion that our expenditure can be materially reduced.

Mr. James Wilson, M.P., is still detained at Calverton Manor by the effects of his late accident. He is expected in town within a few days.

The Sultan, it is stated, has given his sanction to the firman relating to the Euphrates Valley Railway, and the works are to be commenced immediately, under the superintendence of General Chesney.

It was currently reported yesterday that a vacancy had occurred at the Admiralty by the resignation of Sir Robert Peel, and that the office of Civil Lord held by Sir Robert will be abolished.

Yesterday being the anniversary of Her Majesty's marriage, the band of the 1st Life Guards played several favourite airs on the Terrace at Windsor Castle at seven o'clock. In the evening a selection of choral and other music was performed in the music room, which was fitted up with a suitable orchestra. Some 500 distinguished visitors were present.

Worcell, the well-known Polish exile, who died last week, was buried on Monday, in Highgate Cemetery. There was a large funeral procession and crowd of people. A band accompanied the procession, playing Polish and other national music. Among those who followed were Ledru Rollin, Mazzini, Herzen, the Russian, and other political exiles of note. Several orations were delivered over the grave, in English, French, and Polish. The address of Ledru Rollin was given with great force, and elicited marked approval.

The question of the paper duty was brought before the notice of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Wednesday by a deputation of members of the Society for Promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge. The deputation was introduced by Mr. Milner Gibson. Mr. Alderman Baldwin replied to several questions in detail from the Chancellor, who, in conclusion said: "He would not fail to bear in mind all they had said on the general subject. They had brought under his consideration many facts bearing closely on the question; but all he could say at present was, that this moment was not a very favourable one for entertaining the question of a reduction of duty, so far as that was likely to entail a diminution of revenue."

## Postscript.

Wednesday, Feb. 11.

### THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

We have received this morning a copy of the Navy Estimates for the year 1857-8. As might be expected, they exhibit a large and gratifying reduction. Last year the revised estimates for this branch of the service amounted to 16,298,155*l*. This year the total requirement is 8,109,168*l*, showing a reduction of 7,921,400*l*. The principal decrease in this year's rates is naval stores (1,605,050*l*), wages (452,589*l*), victualling (333,416*l*), wages to artificers (306,744*l*), and conveyance of troops (4,758,918*l*).

### YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords yesterday, the LORD CHANCELLOR called attention to the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts, and gave an outline of the principles on which he should himself propose to undertake their reform, and sketched the new machinery he wished to substitute for the existing system in the three branches of testamentary jurisdiction, marriage and divorce, and Church discipline. He concluded by laying on the table three bills, intended to carry out the reforms he had indicated. The details of the proposed changes were discussed at considerable length by Lord Lyndhurst, Lord Campbell, the Bishop of Exeter, Lord Brougham, Lord Wensleydale, and the Bishop of Oxford. The bills were then read a first time.

On the motion of the LORD CHANCELLOR, a select committee was appointed to inquire into the means of improving the manner and language of current legislation.

Their lordships then adjourned.

In the House of Commons, Sir J. WALMSLEY gave notice that on Tuesday, the 24th inst., he should move for a select committee to consider the best means of extending the franchise.

Mr. WISE gave notice, for the same day, of a motion to cancel the vote of 180,000*l*. on account of diplomatic services.

Sir C. WOOD announced that he intended to bring forward the navy estimates on Monday next.

Mr. J. EWART having inquired whether any tokens of honour were to be conferred upon Sir J. McNeill and Colonel Tulloch, the Commissioners intrusted to conduct the Crimean inquiry,

LORD PALMERSTON said that those functionaries had performed their responsible functions in a manner entirely to the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government—(cheers)—very much to their own credit—(hear, hear)—with great ability, great perseverance, and great minuteness of research. (Loud cries of "Hear, hear.") No doubt the report they made was very useful to Her Majesty's Government in enabling them to prevent the recurrence of those unfortunate events which had given rise to the inquiry. (Hear, hear.) At the same time it did not appear to the Government that services of that particular nature require any extraordinary or peculiar recognition.

LORD PALMERSTON promised Mr. Henry Berkeley that he would take an opportunity to inquire into corrupt practices at elections.

Mr. DISRAELI, after claiming an indulgent hearing for an explanation involving his personal honour, referred to the statement he made in a former debate, to the effect that a secret treaty had been concluded between France and Austria, guaranteeing to the latter power the possession of her Italian provinces, to which Lord Palmerston had given a direct and derisive denial. This statement the right hon. member proceeded to reiterate, with various explanations and definitions, at a most inordinate length.

LORD PALMERSTON, in reply, repeated his denial that any such treaty existed. When hopes were entertained that Austria would take an active part in the late war, there had been an understanding entered into, which was embodied in a convention, by which France promised to abstain from all movements calculated to compromise the integrity of the Austrian empire. This convention, however, so far as the British Government were aware, was never signed, nor did it ever really come into effect, as the contingency for which it was prepared never arose. To denominate this temporary and incomplete convention a treaty was, he contended, a confusion of terms.

The right honourable gentleman has repeated the assertion he made the other evening. I can only repeat my denial. I beg the right honourable gentleman's pardon for not having been angry the other night—(laughter)—and I am sorry that I cannot even muster up any indignation now—"hear, hear," and laughter)—and if he will allow me to treat this subject in a manner which is not likely to give offence to any man, I must throw myself on his indulgence for not speaking with more indignation. My object is to vindicate the Government from a charge of bad faith and deceitfulness towards the people of Italy, in having instigated that which he calls a treaty. And here again I must say that we were charged with having instigated a treaty the other night; but now the right honourable gentleman says we only agreed to it. I trust I have now vindicated the Government from the charge which has been brought against them; and having said so much, I will not further trespass on the House. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.)

Major REED withdrew his motion on the subject of the income-tax, explaining that he merely yielded precedence, as an act of justice, to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who had promised to bring forward his financial statement on Friday next.

Sir S. NORTHGOTE moved for leave to bring in a bill to make better provision for the care and education of vagrant, destitute, and disorderly children, and

for the extension of industrial schools. The motion was agreed to after a brief conversation, and leave given to bring in the bill.

The House having gone into committee, on the motion of Mr. HARDY, that honourable member proceeded to ask leave to introduce a bill to amend the laws relating to the sale of beer by retail, and to regulate certain places of public resort, refreshment, and entertainment. This measure, as he explained it, was designed to provide more stringent regulations for houses in which beer was sold; to oblige the keepers of coffee-houses and other places for refreshments that were open at night to take out licenses, and place their establishments under the surveillance of the police. The motion was seconded by Mr. BALL. Sir G. GREY acknowledged the importance of the subject with which the measure was intended to deal, and gave his cordial assent to its introduction. Sir J. PAKINGTON, Mr. WILKINSON, Mr. LOWE, Mr. CROSSLEY, and other members, having briefly spoken, leave was given to bring in the bill.

Leave was also given to the Marquis of Blandford to bring in a bill making further provisions for the mode of securing and paying fixed incomes to ecclesiastical corporations, aggregate and sole.

On the motion of Lord PALMERSTON, a select committee was appointed to consider so much of the second report of the Statute Law Commissioners as relates to the proposition therein made for the adoption of means to improve the manner and language of current legislation. The purport of this proposition, as the noble viscount stated, was to appoint an officer whose special function should be to prepare bills for Parliament, and to watch over them while passing through the Legislature, so as to secure the final enactment of well-expressed, consistent, and workable laws.

Sir G. GREY obtained leave to bring in a bill to facilitate the appointment of chief constables of adjoining counties, and to confirm the appointments of chief constables in certain cases.

The House adjourned at half-past eight o'clock.

### THE ELECTIONS.

The polling for Greenwich took place yesterday. There never seemed to have been any doubt of the issue. At four o'clock the numbers were—

Codrington	2,975
Sleigh	1,543

Majority for Codrington . . . 1,432

At the close of the poll General Codrington presented himself to the electors, and briefly returned thanks for the honour which had been conferred upon him. Colonel Sleigh next addressed the meeting, declaring his intention of petitioning the House of Commons against the return of General Codrington on the ground of bribery. This announcement was received with very considerable hilarity, and the proceedings terminated.

The candidates nominated for Newport, Isle of Wight, on Monday, were R. W. Kennard, Esq., of Thames-street, London, "a Conservative and Reformer," and Charles Seeley, Esq., of Brock House, Isle of Wight. At the poll, yesterday, Mr. Kennard's friends established a majority which, although diminished afterwards, could not be overcome. The very late retirement of Mr. Kinglake and Mr. Cooke, also Liberals, caused a schism in their party which was but partially repaired. The close of the poll was as follows:—

Kennard	271
Seeley	251
Majority	20

The Southampton election took place yesterday. Immense excitement prevailed in the town. Sir Edward Butler headed the poll up to two o'clock, Mr. Weguelin was next, and Mr. Andrews last. At that time desperate fights took place in the High-street between the partisans of Sir Edward Butler and Mr. Weguelin, the committee rooms of whom were opposite each other. After two o'clock Mr. Weguelin lessened the distance between himself and his Tory opponent, and gradually got ahead of him. Mr. Andrews also picked up well, but he had got so far behind that he could not recover. Besides, at this time, numbers who were disposed to vote for Mr. Andrews, seeing the improbability of his winning, went in and voted for Weguelin to keep out Butler, the Tory. The numbers at the close of the poll, at four P.M., were:—

Mr. Weguelin	1,000
Sir Edward Butler	961
Mr. Andrews	819

After the poll had closed, Mr. Andrews addressed an immense crowd outside his rooms, and, although harassed with the hard work, appeared in good spirits. Mr. Weguelin also addressed a street-full of persons. While speaking, a desperate fight took place between a large number of prizefighters and the people in the street. The police appeared on the scene, and a terrific contest took place between them and the pugilists. Several times the latter were rescued, but at last they were overwhelmed and carried ignominiously to gaol, accompanied by an immense multitude of persons.

### MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

We had a very moderate supply of English wheat on sale, today, in poor condition. The demand, however, for all kinds was in a most inactive state, at Monday's currency. The show of foreign wheat was seasonably extensive. Millers purchased cautiously, and the business doing was limited. In prices, however, no change took place. Floating cargoes were very dull. Barley was in moderate supply, and sluggish request, at previous quotations. There was very little doing in malt, at barely late rates. Oats were steady, at full prices; but beans and peas ruled heavy. The flour trade was inactive, and the top price of the best town-made was 57*s* per 360*lbs*.



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## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"D. C."—We think it far better to leave the writer in question to find his proper level without our agency.

## The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1857.

## SUMMARY.

CONCESSION is the order of the day at home and abroad. There seems to be no doubt that Lord Palmerston is prepared to comply with the demand of Parliament and satisfy public expectation, by giving up the war ninepence. We have the assurance of the new Vice-President of the Educational Board, through his Hertford constituents on Monday, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will abandon the extra income-tax on Friday next. It is not for us to anticipate in what way he will contrive to do without the 8,000,000*l.* produced by this war impost, and which he evidently hoped to retain as an important item in his financial arrangements. But the Army and Navy Estimates are being revised with all diligence. So salutary has been the impression produced on Ministers by the expression of public opinion within and without the walls of Parliament, that our naval expenditure for the present year is to be not quite half that of the year before. From the papers now lying before us, we learn that while the Navy Estimates last year amounted to 16,298,155*l.*, this year they are cut down to 8,109,168*l.* If the Army Estimates are proportionally reduced, it is easy to see that Sir G. C. Lewis will find no difficulty in relieving the country from all extra war taxation. The additional duty on malt has already ceased; the war duties on tea, sugar, and coffee will expire in April; and it now only remains that the extra income-tax should share the fate of the other war imposts. In addition to the announcement, that Government has no intention to have recourse to "any new-fangled system of increased estimates during a time of peace," as Lord John Russell phrases it, the hope is held out that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will be in a position to state, on Friday, that the negotiations with Ferukh Khan, at Paris, have been successfully terminated, and that the expenses entailed upon us by the war with Persia have been moderate.

But it is not alone in constitutional England that the ruling power is prepared to return to a peace expenditure. Other European States, though possessing neither our parliamentary institutions nor our enormous expenditure, are studying economy. The Emperor Napoleon consults public opinion by diminishing his military force by 150,000 men—thus saving 100,000,000 francs to the nation, and holding out the prospect of a popular budget. Austria has also considerably reduced her army, and is disposed to try a policy of conciliation. The late Lombard pardons are to be succeeded, it is said, by a general and unconditional amnesty to all political offenders in the Austrian empire, and a policy of reconciliation with the Liberal party at home and abroad. The Emperor Alexander is prepared to follow in the wake of the Court of Vienna, by making real concessions to his Polish subjects, on the occasion of his visit to Paris. He is believed to be doing his best to put an end to the Persian war, and has managed to satisfy the English ambassador at St. Petersburg that Russia is occupied with other things than schemes of conquest and territorial aggrandisement, and that she considers the development of her internal resources as the most urgent of existing duties. Even the King of Naples is tired of his position of dangerous isolation, and is, by the advice of Russia and Prussia, taking such steps as will remove all obstacles to a renewal of diplomatic relations with the Western Powers. While continental states and sovereigns are disposed to realise the solid advantages of peace, it would be hard that England should be deprived of them.

In the business of law reform, the House of

Lords this session appropriately takes the initiative. Last night the Lord Chancellor introduced three bills for the reform of the Ecclesiastical Courts. The first creates a new Court of Probate for jurisdiction over wills, but not over real estate, to be presided over by a judge who will direct issues on matters of facts to be tried by a jury. The Divorce Bill is founded on the measure withdrawn last year. The Clergy Offence Bill proposes to amend the law of ecclesiastical discipline. In the case of doctrinal offences it is not intended to allow a suit to be promoted voluntarily by any one person, but that proceedings can only be taken after a certificate had been obtained, signed by a certain number of persons of station in the Church. These measures met with an ominous reception at the hands of the three great law lords, Lyndhurst, Campbell, and Brougham, but were generally approved of by the Bishop of Exeter. Lord Cranworth has the unhappy tendency to meddle without reforming, so that his measures for amending the law invariably fall to pieces before adverse criticism. Such seems likely to be the fate of his present proposal for reforming the Ecclesiastical Courts.

The Convocation of clergy for the province of Canterbury have endeavoured to forestall the Lord Chancellor in debating a plan for a Supreme Ecclesiastical Court of Appeal, in lieu of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and spent the three days of their session in discussing a multitude of matters affecting the Church. It was a sort of Congregational Union meeting, with this difference—that while the Dissenting assembly may sit at pleasure, Convocation is threatened by the intervention of the Crown, if not prorogued in a few days—for Sir George Grey declares that "it is inexpedient that the sittings of Convocation should be prolonged merely for the sake of discussion." In a word, the State snubs the Church without disguise. At York, there has been the edifying spectacle of the Commissioner of Convocation engaged in a wordy rivalry with the Rev. Canon Trevor, who desired to proceed to business. But the Archbishop's representative, after pronouncing "contumacious all and singular the persons who were obliged to appear, and have in no way appeared in this Synod or Convocation," prorogued the meeting "to that day or any other day," in spite of all protest and interruption, though not until he had admonished all present "then again to appear"! Was there ever so melancholy a burlesque!

The election intelligence of the week is more than usually interesting. The protracted and embittered contest at Southampton has resulted in the return of Mr. Weguelin, the Governor of the Bank of England, who competed with Mr. Andrews for the support of the Liberal electors. In spite of this division, the Conservative candidate, though backed up by strong local influence, was unable to secure a triumph. Though he headed the poll till two o'clock, the Liberal votes were, after that period, nearly all recorded in favour of Mr. Weguelin, and thus gave him a decided majority over both his antagonists. Greenwich has returned Sir W. Codrington, not on account of any special legislative fitness, but because he is a general. At Newport, Mr. Kennard, a Conservative, has gained the day, aided by his Protestant principles and personal reputation. His rival, Mr. Seeley, a staunch Radical, has fallen a victim to the unwise tactics of the Sunday League—which has stirred a question it cannot hope to settle—and to his obnoxious views on Sabbath legislation. Believers in the subsidence of the anti-Maynooth movement are likely ere long to find out their mistake. Who will say that there is no reality in the agitation, when we find Mr. Frewin resigning his seat for East Sussex, in order that he may contest North Leicestershire with Lord John Manners, the apologist for the Maynooth endowment?

## NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

May we not hope—may we not, judging from appearances, believe—that the spirit of indifference to all domestic questions which possessed the House of Commons throughout the war period, has been fairly exorcised? Once more our representative assembly appears to be endowed with independent vitality, and to assume other and worthier functions than that of tamely registering the decisions of the Executive. Since the session of 1852-3, we have witnessed nothing resembling the present determined disposition of the House to act for itself, and to impress its will upon the Government, instead of taking the will of the Government for its rule. There is, plainly enough, a reserve of distrust verging upon positive dissatisfaction, which, if openly expressed, would warn the Ministry in such terms as these: "Take care what you are about—the great interests of this country shall not be the stakes which diplomacy is to be at liberty to risk accordingly as it may suit the purposes of a Cabinet—look well to your conduct and measures for the next six

months, for we are in no temper to be fooled like children." We are much mistaken if the session do not prove a stormy one. No doubt, Lord Palmerston will find himself compelled to change the whole character of his foreign policy—at any rate, so far as it relates to Persia and China—and that, perhaps, in double quick time. But his principal rock ahead is finance. The Income-tax is doomed—any considerable or even appreciable increase of direct taxation will be firmly resisted. Can, then, the noble lord submit to such an adjustment of our defensive forces as will bring down the expenditure to the scale of 1853? Rumour says that the Duke of Cambridge insists upon maintaining a large army—much larger than any we have hitherto kept in time of peace. If the Premier is intent upon carrying out the idea of the Commander-in-Chief, his term of office may be measured by weeks. Whatever may have been his programme for the session, however, we suspect he will be plastic under the pressure of the House. His Chancellor of the Exchequer has already been driven to fix an early day for his financial statement—and upon the nature of that statement the immediate fate of the Administration will depend.

It is not in great and important matters only of national policy that we observe a revival of independent spirit in the House. Take as an instance the debate on Thursday night, on the motion of Mr. Labouchere for appointing a Select Committee to consider the state of the British possessions in North America, under the administration of the Hudson's Bay Company, or over which they possess a licence to trade. The tone of the Right Honourable the Colonial Secretary was that of an apologist for the Company—not very decided, it is true—but seemingly not unfavourable to the renewal of those licences which will expire in 1859. *Seemingly*, we say, for we can conceive it possible that Mr. Labouchere is personally of opinion that the monopoly of the Hudson's Bay Company should cease, although, as a Minister, he may have deemed it politic to assume a leaning the other way. Be this as it may, the tone of the right honourable gentleman did not prevent a very decided expression of feeling on the part of the House. Mr. Roebuck was the first to "take up a parable" against the monopoly. In a few sentences, clearly and almost epigrammatically expressed, he threw a flood of light over the whole range of the question. Nothing could be terser or more apposite than the declaration with which he started: "Where the axe of the settler rings, there fur and the trapper disappears." Mr. Adderley followed in an equally determined spirit—but as he went over much of the ground that Mr. Roebuck had traversed before him, we could not help feeling that in the multiplicity of his words he only darkened somewhat that which had previously been made as luminous as midday. Mr. E. Ellice, a director of the company, fluently and ably put the case of his colleagues, and showed the other side of the question, so far as it may be said to have one. But Mr. Gladstone came after him, and with that accuracy of statement, fulness of information, conscientious impartiality of judgment, and honest adherence to great principles, which so highly distinguish him, thoroughly demolished the monopolists' case. Mr. Henley and Mr. Laing contributed to strengthen the evident feeling of the House on the subject; and dull Mr. Baillie, and solemn Mr. Butt, evinced anything but an inclination to acquiesce in the official assumption of the legality of the Company's charter. Mr. Labouchere disclaimed having arrived at a foregone conclusion, and the appointment of a Select Committee was agreed to.

After the Colonial Secretary had briefly introduced two other measures of no public importance, there followed an exhibition which we record with shame. A well-known Radical member, Mr. W. Williams, stood up and proposed to take from independent members of the House nearly half their privileges, and make them a present to the Government—in other words, he moved that "notices of motion on going into Committee of Supply on the Estimates should have precedence only on alternate days." To make the effect of this intelligible to our non-parliamentary readers, a little explanation may be necessary. The consideration of the Estimates in Committee of Supply constitutes a large item in the business of the session. These Estimates are always discussed in committee, because being matters of detail, the rule of the House, which prohibits a member from speaking more than once to the same question, would be inconveniently restrictive. In committee no such rule obtains, every member being at liberty to speak as often as he pleases. The question, therefore, that the Speaker puts on all occasions, when the House is moved to resolve itself into committee, is, "That I now leave the chair." Our forefathers, not without hard battle, established the right of bringing under the notice of Parliament the grievances of subjects, prior to granting a supply to the Crown—and a grand constitutional right it is. No doubt it is often-times abused. No doubt the abuse has led to a



vast deal of unprofitable talk. But it is, after all, the only resource of those whom the Government have it in their power to shut out from the public ear, and it constitutes well nigh the only check which independent men have upon the obstructive power of the leader of the House. Mr. Williams, who is always most usefully assiduous in Committee of Supply, very naturally grudges the time which is frequently wasted by members in "calling attention to" this or that petty grievance, on the motion that the Speaker leave the chair. Had he consulted his friends around him, instead of the Ministerial whipper-in, who misled him into the belief that he would receive the support of Her Majesty's Ministers, he would probably have been made to comprehend the value of that right, one half of which he proposed to give away. As he took no pains to do this, he reaped only the pitiful result of making himself appear ridiculous. His own seconder, Mr. Wyse, objected to the crude form in which the proposal was put before the House. In the absence of Lord Palmerston (laid up with the gout), Sir George Grey disclaimed the sanction of the Government to any such curtailment of the privileges of the House, and it was well for the credit of Ministers that he did, for, so far as we could ascertain, not a single supporter of the honourable gentleman's motion would have followed him into the lobby. But only think of the exhibition—a Radical member offering to a Whig Government half the privileges of the House, and eliciting the response, "No, thank you, we will not so far impose upon your weakness!"

On the very next evening, the convenience of the said right was illustrated. On the motion that the Speaker leave the chair, in order that the House might go into Committee of Supply, a pressure was brought to bear upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to compel him to make his financial statement *before* the consideration of the Estimates. Mr. Milner Gibson urged this course as demanded by the special circumstances of the times. Mr. Williams concurred with him, and expressed the hope that if the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not accede, Mr. Disraeli would persevere with his motion on the income-tax. Mr. Disraeli said he should bring on that motion without the smallest reference to the Chancellor's intentions—it being simply one for the repeal of an Act of Parliament entailing a grievance. Well, the brief discussion led to this result, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was driven to promise that on Monday he would state the course which the Government meant to pursue.

After this short, but interesting episode, came the debate of the evening on the subject of renewing the Bank Charter. It took place on the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the appointment of a Select Committee on the subject. We refrain from attempting even a sketch of it. Those of our readers who relish a discussion on currency, capital, and banking, will, no doubt, seek and find ample gratification elsewhere. But we could not but notice the continually recurring evidence of the fact that Ministers have not the House so well in hand as they could wish. It would seem from the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that he has made up his mind to renew the Bank Charter for ten years on the same footing as it now stands, and that he seeks the intervention of a committee to protect him from the responsibility of a foregone conclusion. If such really was his purpose, he will probably be disappointed. From what we could judge, we should predict that he will obtain anything but a manageable committee, and that questions will be opened and sifted which he would fain have kept in abeyance. The House thinned pretty continuously during the debate, and the motion was at last carried without a division by less than forty members.

Monday night was mainly devoted to a consideration of the proper treatment of crime. Sir George Grey introduced two bills on the subject, the first relating to secondary punishments—the second, to the establishment of reformatories. Upon neither of the proposed measures do we deem it necessary to pronounce judgment in these "Notes." Sir George prefaced his motion on the first subject by an elaborate and able speech—not exhaustive, however, as Mr. Monckton Milnes flatteringly described it, for he never so much as adverted to the plan of making our prisons self-supporting, by a judicious classification and a systematic enforcement of prison labour. This is an idea altogether beyond range of the official mind, and was only timidly broached in the subsequent debate by Mr. Bentinck. The Home Secretary's proposals appeared to be generally received with favour—and as there was no opposition to the introduction of his measure, we could not but feel that the long and wearisome speeches which followed, inflicted, too, upon a very thin House, might well have been spared until the second reading of the bill. By the way, we must not forget two matters of some interest which occurred early in the evening. Lord Palmerston not having been in the House since

Tuesday se'nnight, Mr. Disraeli inquired of the noble lord's colleagues when he might be expected in his place again, and having been informed that he might be able to come down the next afternoon, the honourable member gave notice that he should embrace that opportunity of "making some observations on the contradiction he received from the noble lord on the first night of the session, on a matter of great moment." So we may expect some further disclosures relating to the alleged "treaty" between France and Austria. The Chancellor of the Exchequer also created some sensation by announcing that he proposed to make his general financial statement on *Friday next*.

Dizzy's announcement, of course, brought down a full House last night. The right honourable gentleman entered upon a long and absurdly rhetorical statement in confirmation of his original assertion that there was a treaty between France and Austria, guaranteeing to Austria, on the part of France, her possessions in Northern Italy. He reiterated his assertion, and gave such particulars as proved clearly enough that he had seen a document of some sort. But when he mentioned the date—December, 1854—there was a general expression of disappointment such as, in vulgar society, would have expressed itself by the interjection "Pooh!" In short, it was tolerably clear before Disraeli sat down that he had not made things much better by his explanation; and Lord Palmerston, who, we are informed, entered the House on crutches, certainly shone more sparklingly than usual in his reply. The crowd dispersed as soon as the noble lord concluded, and although the House remained in session to get through the notice paper, nothing worth recording in these columns occurred after the scene just alluded to.

#### APPROACHING CLOSE OF THE DICTATORATE.

WHEN Great Britain, towards the end of 1855, found herself on the very brink of yawning ruin—engaged in a desperate struggle with a Power whose resources she had underrated—dismayed at the loss of a fine army which had been destroyed by the incapacity of her own servants—humiliated in the eyes of all the world by the break-down of all her arrangements—but animated by an indomitable resolution to retrieve her position—she looked about for a Dictator, and pitched upon Lord Palmerston. For a while—much longer, perhaps, than the perilous exigency demanded—she gave him absolute power, not by abrogating constitutional forms, but by unhesitatingly making them all subservient to his purpose. The Queen, the Cabinet, the Legislature, the people, held their rights in abeyance, or rather, made Palmerston the lord paramount over all. Since that period, with very trivial exceptions, he has done as he pleased. We question whether Napoleon III., or even the Czar Alexander, has been fettered in the exercise of his power by fewer restrictions. Alliances, treaties, foreign loans, men, *materiel*, ships, taxes, patronage—all that a nation can trust of its affairs in the hands of a statesman—were committed to the uncontrolled disposal of Palmerston. Let us do him justice. He had the good fortune, in conjunction with the Emperor of the French, to bring the war with Russia to a close, and to conclude a treaty of peace guaranteeing the accomplishment of the objects for which war was declared.

It had been well for Lord Palmerston's reputation if he had then voluntarily abdicated his dictatorial power. His ambition determined otherwise. He could not forego the gratification of keeping a high-spirited but phlegmatic nation at his feet. Not qualified, and even if qualified, not disposed, to do this by a comprehensive, genial, and fruitful domestic policy, he has sought by means of embroilment of our foreign affairs, to prolong indefinitely the necessity for his dictatorship. Since the ratification of the Treaty of Paris in April last, we have been on the verge of a rupture with the United States of America—we have broken off, to no purpose, our diplomatic relations with Naples—we have squabbled with Russia about the interpretation of the Treaty—we have meddled in the absurd quarrel between the King of Prussia and the canton of Neuchâtel—we have attacked Persia before she was informed that war had been declared against her—and we have bombarded Canton without resorting to the solemnity of declaring war at all. No one can point out the beneficial results which are to accrue to Great Britain from this universally irritating and unsettling policy. Read by its inevitable tendencies, and its actual results hitherto, it became difficult to avoid the conclusion that its main design was to afford a plausible excuse for large military establishments, and prove the necessity of prolonging Palmerston's dictatorship.

The spell is at an end. The noble lord's supremacy will not last much longer. The popular apathy which far-seeing patriotism could not stir,

has been dispelled by the pinching of the pocket. Palmerstonianism is discovered to be a most expensive pastime. We cannot realise the gratification of hustling other nations on thorns, without being well-armed for the spree—we cannot maintain large armaments, without paying for them in the shape of a crushing Income-tax. The bauble which most delights us while we only play with it, is soon tossed aside in disgust when the bill for it comes in. Lord Palmerston's popularity is about to be subjected to this rude test—and, unless we are greatly deceived, it will shrivel up like parchment in a flame. But whether the noble lord's popularity is destined to continue or to collapse, one thing is certain—his dictatorship is over. The House of Commons being master of the purse, is also his master. Too long, and too indulgently, it has suffered the Premier to take his own way; but it has awakened to the danger of its own leniency, and has already given warning that it will resume the control of the national finances. There can be no mistake as to its determination. Calmly, but resolutely, it indicates to the noble lord its purpose of falling back upon the financial settlement of 1853. Lord Palmerston may, or may not, acquiesce in this resolution. If he acquiesces, good bye to his large military establishments, and to the overbearing foreign policy which made them necessary! If he resist, farewell to his Premiership, for it is not worth a fortnight's purchase! No doubt, he is a skilful jockey, but it is a difficult feat to jockey a heavy purse out of the pocket of a dissatisfied and clamorous people.

We can readily anticipate many plausible, and some well-founded objections, which will be urged against joining with Mr. Disraeli in getting rid of the Income-tax. To our minds, they all yield to two paramount considerations. The first is, that so long as that tax is continued, Palmerston will find the means to play out his mischievous game—the second is, that so long as Palmerston is at the head of affairs, the Income-tax, instead of being balanced by a corresponding remission of indirect taxation, will invariably be absorbed by extravagant expenditure. There is no feasible method of putting an end to his meddling foreign policy, but that of depriving him absolutely and unconditionally of a good proportion of his late resources. So long as you continue to find him money beyond the actual need of the Government, he will continue to find a bad use for it. Under ordinary circumstances, it may be rash to condemn a particular tax to extinction before you have fairly ascertained what expenditure is requisite. But under present circumstances, we look upon the question purely as one of confidence in Palmerston and in the policy of large military establishments. It so happens that you cannot make him a present of the Income-tax without practically endorsing his continental tastes. What he really asks for when he asks a continuance of that impost, is more soldiers and more ships than we ever found necessary during the forty-years' peace—for your money will be turned into these if you are only weak enough to give it him.

As to the comparative merits of direct and indirect taxation, we are at one with the Liverpool Finance Association. Were we dealing with an honest and able finance Administration, we should infinitely prefer a modified Income-tax, even to its present amount, coupled with a large remission of our Customs and Excise duties. But it is the sheerest pedantry to assume that any such issue is about to be tried or decided. We all know what Palmerston means by a heavy Income-tax—viz., a burdensome and offensive peace establishment—the means not merely of defending ourselves from invasion, but also, as Lord Panmure, we think, expressed it, "of landing an effective army on the Continent when the occasion calls for it." That is what those who vote for the Income-tax, under the Palmerstonian dictatorship, will really vote for—that, and nothing but that. And that, be it remembered, is what a majority of the House of Commons would prefer, if the constituencies will but put it in their power. Members, happily, dare not peril their seats by supporting the perpetuation of an odious and unpopular exaction. They must bend to the storm from this direction. But if, perchance, the Minister could contrive to keep this resource within his power, the very same members would gladly help him to spend it in ruinous establishments—for large estimates is but another name for large amounts of money to be divided among the "upper ten thousand." For our own part, we recognise the imperative necessity of holding hard the purse-strings against such a Minister as Lord Palmerston, whenever we can most effectually hold them hard—and in discharging this duty, we can only regret that the necessity is too stringent to admit of our drawing nice distinctions between this and the other plan of taxation.

And now we willingly commit the noble lord at the head of Her Majesty's Government to the chances of the next month. "Beware the Ides of



March," is the warning which events are impressing on him. As to the members of his Cabinet, we have no eager desire to see them displaced—but they are but ciphers, while Palmerston is the integer. We confess that, differing so essentially as we do with the noble lord on his foreign policy and his lack of interest in all domestic questions, we should be glad to see his retirement from his post. But, at all events, we have this consolation. He can only keep his place by yielding to the determination of the House of Commons. There seems little question that he will yield. We shall know his decision before the present week is out—and whatever else we may see in it, one gratifying fact we are pretty certain it will disclose—namely, that although Lord Palmerston may retain his office as Premier, his dictatorship is about to close for ever.

#### THE HUDSON'S BAY MONOPOLY.

GLEN TILT, as everyone is aware, is shut up in order to provide undisturbed solitude for the red deer, and minister to the sporting propensities of its lordly proprietor, the Duke of Atholl. Great is the outcry periodically raised by disappointed tourists excluded from one of the most romantic districts of Scotland, and by patriots like Professor Blackie whose notions of the rights of property are greatly at variance with those of the ducal mind. The claims of humanity and civilisation are unceremoniously pitted against the autocratic tastes and will of the lord of the soil, and the deer-hunter of the Highlands threatened with the intervention of the Imperial Legislature, as well as the Courts of Law.

The British possessions in North America have their Glen Tilt on a gigantic scale. The territory under the sway of the Hudson's Bay Company is of almost boundless extent—that portion which lies between the St. Lawrence and Hudson's Bay being alone as large as Europe, and very fertile. This trading corporation has also the exclusive right over the vast region of British Oregon, and some years ago, "in consequence of one of the greatest blunders ever committed by a Colonial Minister," according to Mr. Adderley, obtained from Earl Grey, a lease of Vancouver's Island, on the western coast of North America. The Hudson's Bay territory, an empire in itself, and capable of becoming the seat of a great nation, is the Paradise of foxes, wolves, bears, and martens—the preserve of the greatest fur company in the world, but whose trading interests are necessarily antagonistic to colonisation. For a period of two hundred years it has been permitted to pursue its objects almost unchallenged, and to exclude the intruding foot of the agricultural settler. None can deny that it has carried out its policy with uniform success. It has to deal with a scattered population of some 300,000 souls, mostly Red Indians and half-breeds, who have become the vassals of the Fenchurch-street monopolists, are dependent upon them for the means of existence, and are exclusively employed in the chase of wild animals for the sake of their furs. If, as is alleged, this vast territory is a *terra incognita* to the industrious colonist—the pioneer of civilisation, and if the native population have been oppressed, debarred from civilising and religious influences, degraded into the mere slaves of a mercenary corporation, and oftentimes reduced to the starvation point—the blame rests ultimately upon the British Government, which has invested the Company with autocratic power and privileges unknown in the history of mankind. "Fully granting that we are not to blame the Hudson's Bay Company," said Mr. Gladstone in last Thursday's debate, "for having taken advantage of the powers which we have been imprudent enough to leave in its hands, I must say at the same time that I do feel it has been not only an error, but almost a scandal to this great assembly, that we never have considered with the seriousness it required the condition and the fortunes of that large portion of the surface of the globe, which is, or purports to be, under the jurisdiction of the Hudson's Bay Company."

The House of Commons is, however, about to atone for its long neglect, and has, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, appointed a select committee to inquire into the whole subject. Such a course had become inevitable; and Mr. Labouchere has done wisely in anticipating a demand which could not much longer have been resisted. The active and persevering efforts of the Aborigines' Protection Society, who have collected a body of facts as to the treatment of the Indians in the Hudson's Bay territory, which that corporation will find it difficult to explain away—the westward movement of the emigration stream—the claims of our Canadian colonists, whose expansion is arrested by the selfish and monstrous privileges of a London trading company—alike necessitate immediate inquiry. Mr. Labouchere himself admits that it involves questions of Imperial policy, justice, and humanity, of no

ordinary magnitude. The neighbouring state of Minnesota, belonging to the United States, is already largely colonised by enterprising Yankees, and Mr. Oliphant, in his interesting book on that recently settled region, shows plainly enough that the tide of emigration will ere long flow over the boundary line that separates the two great nations of the North American continent. The fur trade and colonisation are incompatible. As Mr. Roebuck said, "where the axe of the settler rang, there fur and the trapper disappeared." The Imperial aspect of the question was very forcibly presented by Mr. Adderley in his speech on the motion for a select committee:—

If England did not allow it to be opened it would open either of itself or with the assistance of the United States, and the real question, in his opinion, was whether it should continue to belong to the Queen or whether it should be annexed to the United States. (Hear, hear.) Vancouver's Island, which had been annexed to the Hudson's Bay territory in consequence of the greatest blunder ever committed by a Colonial Minister, was not only peculiarly rich in minerals and whale fisheries, but it was upon the line which would connect the Atlantic and the Pacific, and its great mercantile value had been long ago foreseen by Mr. Pitt. It mattered little whether the charter of the company were valid or not; it could not be maintained in opposition to the rights and the necessities of mankind. (Hear.) There was no precedent in history of an empire which had the power of declaring that a great continent should be locked up, that it should be kept as a preserve for wild animals, and that it should produce nothing but fur. (Hear.) For all the important purposes of commerce, traffic, colonisation, and all the great objects interesting to humanity, the world was shut out of this enormous territory on behalf of a small trading and exclusive company. (Hear, hear.)

The interesting letters which have appeared in our columns from Mr. Chesson, the Assistant-Secretary of the Aborigines' Protection Society, by no means bear out Mr. Labouchere's lenient judgment that the rule of the Company had "on the whole been beneficial to the native population." Those statements, coupled with the facts brought together by Mr. Fitzgerald in his "Examination of the Charter and Proceedings of the Hudson's Bay Company with reference to the grant of Vancouver's Island," lead to a directly opposite conclusion. But we have no desire to prejudge a question likely to be fully and impartially investigated by a committee which will include statesmen so thoroughly conversant with the subject as Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Roebuck, and Mr. Adderley. In a few weeks, ample evidence will be forthcoming as to the way in which the company has discharged its duty towards the Indian population of that region, and fulfilled the conditions of the charter which conferred upon it such extraordinary privileges.

The speech of the Colonial Minister, and the tone of the debate, are sure indications that this monstrous monopoly is drawing to an end. The tide of civilisation is advancing westward to the shores of the Pacific, and cannot be arrested by the antiquated pretensions of a trading corporation. In the region beyond the Canadas there may be "ample room and verge enough" both for the colonist and the trapper. But at a time when so many of the working classes of this country are requiring a new field for their industry, and when destitute operatives and artisans are asking Government to afford them facilities for emigration, it is preposterous that a territory which would afford abundant scope for all the surplus labour we could send thither for the next quarter of a century, should continue to be a huge preserve for wild animals, in order that handsome dividends may be paid to the proprietors of shares in the Hudson's Bay Company.

#### THE NEW NON-PAROCHIAL REGISTERS COMMISSION.

(From the *Liberator* for February.)

There is an announcement in our advertising columns of a Royal Commission, which ought to have the attention of Dissenters of all sects and shades. We refer to the Commission for enquiring into the non-parochial registers of births, baptisms, deaths, burials or marriages, for which the character of validity, as legal evidence, has not yet been secured.

The act for the registration of births, marriages, and deaths, may, in our estimation, still be regarded as one of the most important in a series of concessions to Dissenting demands for equality of civil rights. Its value was enhanced by the fact that, in so far as respects legal registration, it became retrospective, by the validity which it gave to more than 7,000 registers, from 3,630 religious congregations, and about 1,500 others obtained from other sources—the whole having been collected, examined, and arranged by a commission previously appointed for the purpose.

Among these registers were 1,432 volumes (containing about 600,000 entries)—all kept with characteristic order and precision—deposited by the Society of Friends. Since that period this body has discovered the existence of several other registers, in various parts of the country, and it is, we believe, to their anxiety to place these in the same position, that we owe the appointment of a new Commission. The opportunity afforded to them is, of course, open to all others, and as there is no doubt that it is the last opportunity which will

present itself, it is important that all chapel and other registers which may have been neglected, or kept back, on the last occasion, should be produced now. It is on general grounds desirable that the collection of such records in the care of the Registrar-General should be complete; but to individuals, whose legitimacy or pecuniary rights may in future years be called in question, it is of the utmost importance that the evidence on which they would have to rely should be rescued from the dangers of local custody, and be open to inspection in well-known, and always accessible archives—having, at the same time, equal force in a Court of Law with the Registers of the Church Establishment.

Ministers, deacons, trustees, and all others who may have possession, or have cognizance, of records of the kind now described, should therefore at once place themselves in communication with the Secretary of the Non-parochial Registers Commissioners, Somerset House, London, and should also make known the existence and object of the commission among others who may not be reached by the ordinary public announcements.

#### SOCIAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL REFORMS IN INDIA.

The law permitting the re-marriage of widows has been carried into effect. Pandit Greeschunder Surma, a Koolin of Koolins, a man of the very highest sacerdotal rank, has married the widow of a pundit of equal birth. The ceremony was attended by hundreds of Brahmins, and created a profound sensation. There has been some talk of excommunicating all concerned; but so extreme a step is improbable, for this reason among others—if the orthodox excommunicate the guilty couple they must excommunicate every Hindoo who attended the wedding. They will do nothing so dangerous, and the prohibition may be considered finally abolished. I am told that some degree of coercion was exercised on the bridegroom, but Hindoos invariably account for their defeats in that fashion. Even if true, the fact will make no difference. A Koolin has married a Koolin widow. He has not been excommunicated. Anybody, therefore, may marry a widow without fear of consequences. This result is admitted by the most bigoted opponents of the reform, so there is an end of one of the oldest social evils that ever afflicted a community. The bride in this case was a girl of about twelve. Under the ancient system she must have remained single all her life, an object of perpetual anxiety to her family.

The Government has recently taken another step in the direction of social reform. It is even more daring than the last. The Santhals have at last completely settled down. Their harvest this year will be splendid, all debts were paid by the insurrection, and the zemindars would as soon try to oppress tigers. The military police has been organised, and there is little apparent danger of a new outbreak. It is felt, however, that there is no permanent security for the Damun till the savages have been civilised. The Government, therefore, has handed the whole race over to the Church Missionary Society. Teachers are to be selected by them, and responsible to them alone, the State finding the funds. School-houses, boarding-schools, books, and money for travelling are all to be provided by Government, but administered by the Society. The missionaries are free to teach any creed they please, and it is understood—though not stated—that attendance in the schools will be pretty rigidly enforced. Mr. Droege, the Society's agent in Bhazulpore, is a man of some energy; and the Santhals have no creed, nor caste, and rather a respect than otherwise for Christianity. It is not therefore improbable that in a generation the savages who recently desolated Beerbhoom may be an educated civilised tribe of Christians. No prejudice has been excited among the Hindoos.

I enclose the missionaries' petition to Parliament. It has been rejected by the Government of India, partly because the inquiry would be a cause of disturbance, partly because it considers itself already well informed. Of the grave reasons which exist for this petition I will give you one instance. Under Regulation 7 of 1779, the landholder has the power to "compel" his tenants, for any purpose connected with their holdings, to attend at his house. By construction 382 the Sudder Court refused to define the degree of compulsion which might be legally exercised. In practice, therefore, a landholder may summon his tenant to attend him whenever and wherever he likes, under penalty of any amount of punishment he has the power to inflict. That is only one of the laws into which inquiry is "unadvisable."—*Times Bombay Correspondent*.

#### ROYAL JENNERIAN INSTITUTION.

From the annual report of the Royal Jennerian and London Vaccine Institution we make the following extracts. Speaking of the session of Parliament, it is said:—

It is expected that a committee of the House of Commons will be appointed to investigate the subject of vaccination in all its various bearings, and your Board entertain the hope that the result will justify the views, put forth on so many occasions by your Board: views, which embody the ideas, that vaccination being a good, will spread by its own goodness; that as vaccination is connected with the introduction of a poison (your Board believe a beneficent poison because protective against small pox), no Legislature has a right to oblige parents, contrary to their convictions, to have such poison introduced into their children, and that, therefore, all compulsory vaccination is unjust, indefensible, and unnecessary.

These views were presented fully by the Medical



Director to the notice of the Hon. Mr. Cowper, the President of the Board of Health, and one result of the communications between Mr. Cowper and your Medical Director was the recognition of the fact—how unwise hasty legislation is, since it creates a number of interested parties, who, by the very nature of their duties (duties implying payment) desire a perpetuation of the offices which they perform—the performance of which, being in opposition to the dictates of true science and wise benevolence, must be fruitful of injury, and interpose barriers in the way of recovering the true path. Mr. Cowper acknowledged the difficulties in legislating in relation to vaccination in connexion with points brought before him by the Medical Director, and incidentally recognised that there was no way of meeting these difficulties, but by leaving vaccination to progress by its own excellence, to realise which, the Legislature must undo what it has done in regard to vaccination, which Mr. Cowper, no doubt, considered a step which the Legislature would not take.

Your Board still maintain, that the cause of vaccination was subjected to injury immediately that Government interfered. Its first interference was in the establishment of that concentration of large fees for doing virtually nothing, and small fees for doing a great deal, exhibited in the National Vaccine Institution. The introduction of Government pay and professed (for it was only professed) Government inspection, interfered with the benevolent aid of those friendly to vaccination, and prevented the supervision, which would have been bestowed by them and that diligently, because, urged on by the same impulse, as that which induced the pecuniary aid voluntarily given to effect the diffusion of that which the givers of the aid deemed to be important.

In case of any parliamentary inquiry, the Board engages to be at its post, and endeavour to bring before the notice of the Parliamentary Committee, the facts bearing upon this important question, being satisfied that no greater opportunities exist than those possessed by the institution, to make an acquaintance with the facts of vaccination. In regard to the means best suited to promote the diffusion of vaccination, the Board reiterate the proposal made in the report of 1855:—

But the most effective method by which Parliament can promote vaccination, is by appointing a commission, consisting of the following gentlemen: The Director of the Cow-pock Institution in Dublin; one of the most experienced vaccinators of the National Vaccine Institution; the vaccinator of the Cow-Pox Department of the Small-pox Institution; and the Medical Director of the Royal Jennerian Institution.

Let each member of the commission vaccinate six children; let these six children when declared safe by these gentlemen, be, within a given time, placed in the wards of the Small-pox Hospital, and there be exposed to the contagion of small-pox. The result will be that, being properly vaccinated, they will resist the small-pox contagion. Let the whole facts be published in all the newspapers in the kingdom; let every clergyman of the Established Church, and every minister of every other Christian denomination, be requested to proclaim the results from the pulpit; and there cannot be a doubt that such a proclamation will do more to diffuse, through Great Britain and Ireland, the blessings of vaccination, than all the Acts of Parliament which may be devised by those, anxious to gain a good end, but not using means in accordance with the character of the British people.

### Court, Personal, and Official News.

The fourth dramatic performance, at Windsor Castle, took place on Thursday; the selected play being Shakspeare's "Richard II." Among the guests at Windsor Castle have been—the Princess and the Princess Feodora of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, the Princess Victoria of Saxe-Coburg, Sir Houston Stewart, Lord Palmerston, Sir Benjamin Hall, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, Lord and Lady Stanley of Alderley, Mr. Pemberton Leigh, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, the Right Hon. the Speaker and Mrs. Shaw Lefevre, Rear-Admiral the Hon. Sir F. Grey, and Major-General Sir George Wetherall (the Adjutant-General). On Saturday, the Queen held a Privy Council. Viscount Castlereagh, Comptroller of the Queen's Household, was sworn of the Privy Council, and took his place at the Board. Sir Charles Wood and Earl Granville had audiences of the Queen. The Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg and the Prince of Leiningen dined with the Queen in the evening. On Monday, Prince Albert, attended by Lieutenant-Colonel Ponsonby, went to the Wellington College and inspected the works in progress. The Prince of Wales went out hunting. The Court is expected to leave Windsor for Buckingham Palace on Thursday (to-morrow), the 12th instant, there to remain for about three weeks, and then again to return to Windsor Castle.

The Dukes of Newcastle, Somerset, and Hamilton, and the Marquis of Westminster, are all named as aspirants for the vacant garter.

The Queen has directed letters-patent to be passed under the Great Seal, appointing Charles William Fitzgerald, Esq., (commonly called Marquis of Kildare); Sir Thomas Nicholson Redington, K.C.B.; Bonamy Price, Esq., M.A.; and James Gibson, Esq., Barrister-at-law, to be Her Majesty's Commissioners for the purpose of inquiring into the progress and condition of the institutions commonly called the Queen's Colleges, at Belfast, Cork, and Galway, respectively.

Viscountess Palmerston commenced the hospitalities of the present season on Saturday evening, by throwing open the saloons of Cambridge House for the reception of company. [Her husband was absent, laid up with the gout.]

The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have appointed the under-mentioned noblemen and gentlemen to be Trustees for the formation of a Gallery of the most eminent persons in British History—the Lord President of the Council for the time being; the Marquis of Lansdowne, K.G.; the

Earl Stanhope; the Earl of Ellesmere, K.G.; Lord Elcho, M.P.; Lord Robert Cecil, M.P.; the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, M.P.; the Right Hon. Thomas Babington Macaulay; the Right Hon. B. Disraeli, M.P.; Sir Francis Palgrave; Sir Charles Eastlake; William Smith, Esq.; W. H. Carpenter, Esq.

We have been informed that the Government has at last begun the good work of appearing more pacific by sending orders to Woolwich for a reduction of the artillery department of our war establishment.—*Morning Star*.

It is stated that the East India Company will shortly invite tenders for the conveyance of upwards of 2,000 troops from England to Madras.

The Most Rev. Dr. Slattery, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cashel, died on Wednesday evening at an advanced age. In his youth he had graduated in the Protestant University of Trinity College.

The Government, on the recommendation of the Board of Trade, has directed a further inquiry to be instituted at Hong-Kong into the circumstances attending the shipment at that port and Macao of coolies on board the ship Duke of Portland for the Havana.

The election of an honorary President of the Associated Societies of Edinburgh took place in the University of Edinburgh on Wednesday. The candidates were Sir John Macneill and Lord John Russell. The contest was remarkably keen; and at the close of the poll Sir John Macneill was elected.

The *Gazette* contains a copy of the amended law of South Carolina relating to coloured seamen.

Turner, the great painter, left by will 1,000*l.* for a monument to his memory in St. Paul's. It is to be a statue, and the sculptor chosen to execute it is Mr. McDowall, R.A. All the sculptors resident in London who are Royal Academicians sent in competing designs.

Dr. Sandwith, whose name is so well known to the public in connexion with the siege of Kara, has been appointed Colonial Secretary of the Mauritius, in the room of Mr. C. J. Bayley, now Governor of the Bahamas.

The governor of Maidstone Gaol has received from the Home Office a further respite for the convict Mansell until the 11th May.

The Lord President of Her Majesty's Privy Council having placed at the disposal of the Council of the Society of Arts, the privilege of nominating two candidates as competitors in an examination recently held by the Civil Service Commissioners for clerkships in the Privy Council Office, the council of the society recommended to his lordship Robert Abbott, of Leeds, and William Matthew Taylor, of Windsor, both of whom had distinguished themselves at the society's examinations in June last. The council announces that their candidates have been successful, standing first and fourth on the list. There were twenty-one selected competitors, and five vacancies.

### Miscellaneous News.

The Committee of the Court of Common Council have presented to that body a comprehensive report on the subject of corporation reform.

At a meeting of the Royal Physical Society, on Wednesday, it was resolved to memorialise Government to purchase Mr. Hugh Miller's valuable collection, to be added to the new National Museum now in the course of formation in Edinburgh.

Mr. Thomas Brodribb and Mr. Edward Chaplin, two of the members of the Evening Classes for Young Men, at Crosby Hall, have just been appointed clerks of the third class in the Educational Department of the Privy Council-office, after a competitive examination by the Civil Service Commissioners. The number of candidates admitted to compete for five appointments was twenty-one.

Early on Saturday morning, the postmaster at Chatham was grossly attacked by a party of military ruffians for generously interfering on behalf of an unfortunate sailor whom our country's defenders were cruelly mistreating. An investigation on the part of the military authorities has already taken place; several of the cowardly offenders have been identified; and the Postmaster-General will, doubtless, order their prosecution.

A crowded meeting of working men was held on Friday evening at the Temperance-hall, Clerkenwell, Mr. Neale Porter in the chair; when several resolutions were agreed to, having reference to the present distressed condition of the working men of the metropolis. The first resolution called the attention of Government to the "severe, wide-spread, and alarming distress existing in the metropolis and its suburbs, the result of a long stagnation in the building and other trades." The other resolutions spoke of the "acute and almost intolerable privations" now endured by working men, their wives and children, and stated that the only hope of the men who could not find employment was emigration to Australia, New Zealand, and Canada; and they therefore prayed the Government to grant them a free passage to the colonies. Petitions to both Houses of Parliament, based upon the resolutions, were agreed to.

Mr. Vincent has delivered his lectures on the Commonwealth at Carmarthen and Newport to large audiences; and at Neath, his lectures on the Protestant Reformation in England. At Risca he has addressed two crowded meetings; two at Aberdare, and one at Britton Ferry. In the Principality there is a steady growth of Liberal principles among all classes and sects. At Neath (although the pro-rate party obtained a majority at the late Church-rate contest) Church-rates are dead; thanks to the zealous exertions of Messrs. Kenway, Vesey, and a worthy band of true men. The rector and his curate have appeared at Mr. Vincent's lectures this time, and a more fraternal feeling begins to pervade the town.

Mr. Evans, the Mayor, presided at the first and closing lecture. This gentleman is not only aiding the spread of sound principles, but last week he gave away one hundred tons of coal to the poor, and carted them, at his own expense, to their respective homes.

### Law and Police.

**CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.**—At this court, on Wednesday, Henry Edwards pleaded guilty to forging a power of attorney, with intent to sell Consols belonging to Mrs. Midmer, his cousin, who lives at Bath. Edwards had a proper power of attorney for receiving dividends for Mrs. Midmer; he was in pecuniary difficulties; he deposited a power of attorney at the Bank, purporting to be signed by Mrs. Midmer, authorising him to transfer 350*l.* of Consols. Sentence, four years' penal servitude.—On Thursday, John Paul, lately clerk to the City of London Union, was convicted of stealing a cheque for 378*l.* The sentence was transportation for fourteen years.—Mr. Baron Martin has directed that the Turkish Bonds found in the possession of Pierce shall be delivered to Mr. Rees, the solicitor to the South-Eastern Railway, in trust for the benefit of Fanny Kay and her child.—On Saturday, Anthony Gardner was sentenced to twelve months' and Daniel Lee to six months' imprisonment, for stealing Crimean medals.

**ANDERSON AND SAWARD** were examined on Thursday with respect to the forgery of the 1,000*l.* cheque upon Messrs. Kinnaird. The document was proved to be a forgery. The prisoners were remanded till Wednesday (this day).

**PROFLIGACY IN HIGH LIFE.**—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Wednesday, an action was brought by a Mr. Harrison against the Marquis of Bath, to recover a sum of 75*l.* for goods delivered. It appeared that Harrison was a wine agent, and between the years 1852 and 1853 had supplied wines to a notorious house of a person where the defendant was in the habit of visiting. The plaintiff had been prosecuted and convicted of a criminal offence, for which he suffered two years' imprisonment. The plaintiff and the defendant were the only witnesses examined, and the jury returned a verdict for the defendant. The case involved some disgraceful revelations of profligacy in high life.

**THE KNIGHTSBRIDGE CHURCH CASE.**—Monday morning having been fixed for hearing the appeal of the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Liddell, incumbent of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, and St. Barnabas, Pimlico, against the judgment of Sir John Dodson, Dean of the Arches, the Court of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council, in Downing-street, was crowded by ladies and gentlemen interested in the case. Mr. Westerton, Mr. Beal, and Mr. Liddell were also present. The judges were the Lord Chancellor, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, Lord Wensleydale, Sir J. Pattison, Sir W. H. Maule, and the Hon. Pemberton Leigh. The proceedings were opened by Sir Fitzroy Kelly, who, on behalf of the appellant, spoke at great length with a view of showing that the conduct of Mr. Liddell, in the management of the churches of which he was incumbent, was perfectly in accordance with law, both civil and ecclesiastical. He contended that the use of crosses in churches was legal. He had not concluded his arguments when the court adjourned. Yesterday, Sir Fitzroy Kelly continued his arguments, and spoke from the sitting to the rising of the court.

**SHOEBLACKS.**—At the Mansion-house, on Monday, a humane gentleman attended before Mr. Alderman Wilson, and complained that on Saturday evening, while his boots were being cleaned by a shoeblack in the street, a policeman interfered, and compelled the poor boy and several of his comrades to move off. The reason alleged by the police for this arbitrary act was that the boys in question did not belong to "the schools," and sometimes turned out to be thieves. The magistrate expressed his indignation at the conduct of the police in preventing an unfortunate lad—even if he had been an inmate of Holloway prison—from earning an honest penny.

**REMOVING A BODY FROM A BURIAL-GROUND.**—In the Court of Criminal Appeal last week the well-known case of Mr. Sharpe, of Hitchin, who was convicted for removing the body of his mother from the Dissenting burial-ground of that town, the Chief Baron confirmed the conviction. The court had communicated with the learned judge who tried the case, and he had stated that if the court fined the defendant one shilling, that would amply satisfy the justice of the case. The court, therefore, would act upon this suggestion, and would fine the defendant the nominal sum of one shilling. Conviction affirmed.

### Literature.

#### DR. PYE SMITH ON INSPIRATION.

*British Quarterly Review*, No. 49. Art.: *Doctrine of Inspiration*.

WE promised, last week, to return to this article, that we might show that its attempt to deprive certain views of Inspiration of the sanction of Dr. Pye Smith's name, is without any just foundation; and that the reviewer's statement as to Dr. Pye Smith's final expression of opinion on the subject, is utterly incorrect, from beginning to end.

Let us, first of all, distinctly say, that we do not undertake to defend Dr. Pye Smith's views; but simply to exhibit them. Secondly, we do not assert an entire agreement between Dr. Pye Smith and Dr. Davidson, either as to the details of the application, or the mode of stating, the



principle on which each relies;—we only affirm that the principles have the same essence, and that each writer reaches the same principal conclusions as to the phenomena of the sacred Scriptures regarded relatively to their Inspiration. Thirdly, we do not deny that Dr. Pye Smith, under the influence of the searching, but somewhat acrid, criticism of the good and venerable Dr. Bennett, did show something of vacillation, and was involved in momentary self-contradiction: nor do we deny, that even in his completer treatment of the subject, in his chief works, there is something of seeming inconsistency;—but we maintain that, notwithstanding, a certain clear line of principle pervades all his representations, and a real unity marks his eventual conclusions, on this whole subject of the Inspiration of the Old and New Testaments.

The *British Quarterly* states its case as follows:—

"We are aware that at one time the late Dr. Pye Smith avowed himself a believer in the view of Inspiration which limits that influence to the religious and moral teaching of the Scriptures. Before 1837, the Doctor had rejected the idea both of the canonicity and inspiration of the Song of Solomon. Not content with avowing these opinions in his *Scripture Testimony*, he published them anew in that year in the *Congregational Magazine*, stating at large his reasons for so thinking. His language on the question of inspiration on that occasion startled his friends not a little. Nothing like it, so far as we remember, had ever been avowed in this country by any Evangelical Nonconformist."

The reviewer then gives the passage which Dr. Davidson has inserted, in support of his own views in his recent volume (*Horne's* 374); and of which the core is contained in these three following sentences:—

"I find no end to my anxiety, no rest for my faith, no satisfaction for my understanding, till I embrace the sentiment that the qualities of sanctity and inspiration belong only to the religious and theological element which is diffused through the Old Testament, &c."

"Thus, I regard as inspired Scripture, all that refers to holy things, all that can bear the character of 'Oracles of God,' and admit the rest as appendages, of the nature of private memoirs, or public records, useful to the antiquary and the philologist, but which belong not to the rule of faith, or the directory of practice."

"Inspiration belongs to religious objects; and to attach it to other things is to lose sight of its nature and misapply its design."

Having given the passage from which we take these sentences, the reviewer proceeds:—

"Dr. Bennett now published his objections to the ground taken by Dr. Smith. In the following year Dr. Smith was constrained to acknowledge that he had erred in denying the canonicity of the Song of Solomon; and in place of attempting to sustain the above language on inspiration, he fell back upon his statements in the *Scripture Testimony* as expressing his opinions. The following are the extracts selected by the Doctor as stating his views. The italics are his own."

Then follow the extracts, of which we again take out the core:—

"There are many passages in Scripture to which an original inspiration could not be attached. . . . but they are inserted as facts and documents in the general course of the inspired narrative, and the guarantee of truth and genuineness is all the inspiration that we can desire, and all that they are susceptible of."

"The historical parts are palpably and professedly derived, in a great measure, from the common sources of history. . . . Many of the facts thus recorded have not directly a religious interest, but they were valuable to the Israelites and Jews, as fragments of national and family history; and in our times they have proved to be of great importance in casting light upon the almost lost history of several ancient nations."

"The compilation of a narrative out of those materials, must have been the work of industry and fidelity, in prophets, priests, and public scribes; and the office of inspiration here would be in guiding the selection of materials, and in the guarantee of their authenticity and truth."

"But throughout these histories are interspersed many direct messages from God, utterances of prophecy, and orders of their fulfilment; also many statements of fact which could have been only by information from God himself. In these cases the matter must have been communicated by a Divine influence. In relations of facts, veracity and accuracy are all we want. What possessed these qualities, though the knowledge of it might be derived from any of the common sources of information, would be not less true than that which was infused into the mind by the immediate operation of the Holy Spirit; and being thus sanctioned by the adoption of that Spirit into the general narrative, it received the seal of Divine approbation; and is as sure a ground of dependence, and as profitable for all religious uses, as if it had been dictated from Heaven to a perfectly ignorant and merely mechanical copyist."

The reviewer then adds:—

"To the paper in which these extracts were given the Doctor added a note, in which an 'Oxford divine' says 'it is not truth of all kinds that the Bible was inspired to teach, but only such truth as tends to religious edification; and the Bible is consequently infallible as far as regards this, and this alone.' Now this, it will be seen, is just what the Doctor had himself said in his first paper; but to this he now adds the following remark: 'In this I cannot acquiesce; I believe that even with respect to common and natural things, the declarations of the Bible are infallible, when interpreted by the use of proper means, and the final sense is thus elicited.' These extracts code all that could be desired; and, so far as we know, this is the last deliverance of Dr. Pye Smith on this question."

Now, first, for a small matter: The reviewer quotes the passage given by Dr. Davidson—and

Dr. Davidson does the same—as from the *Congregational Magazine*, for July, 1837; and then the reviewer quotes the extracts given by Dr. Smith from his own work, and represents them as a "falling back" on the *Scripture Testimony*, "in place of attempting to sustain the above (i.e. former) language on inspiration;" and this "falling back" is dated Sept. 1838 (*Congregational Magazine*). It could hardly be understood from this confused statement, that the very passage quoted by Dr. Davidson and the reviewer, is contained in the same edition of the *Scripture Testimony* as contains the extracts subsequently given by the Doctor himself, and now reproduced by the reviewer; and that the edition containing both was published in the year of the controversy between Drs. Smith and Bennett—its preface being dated July 25, 1837, so that it must have appeared somewhat later in the year. Instead, then, of an abandonment of a position taken in the *Congregational Magazine*, for one taken in the *Scripture Testimony*, both positions are taken in the *Scripture Testimony*, and Dr. Smith fell back from the *Scripture Testimony*, to the *Scripture Testimony*. The passage quoted by Dr. Davidson and described by the reviewer as "startling not a little the friends" of Dr. Smith, is to be found in *Scripture Testimony*, third edition, p. 54; and the other Extracts, same work and edition, and same note, pp. 30—41. The Doctor wrote and published the seemingly contradictory passages as parts of one whole.

Secondly; as to Dr. Smith's acknowledgment of error in the controversy on Solomon's Song, we shall best understand how far it extended, by looking at what he himself wrote on this controversy ten years later than the passage quoted by the *British Quarterly* from the *Congregational Magazine*. In 1848, the Doctor issued a fourth and completely revised edition of his *Scripture Testimony*, of which he says: "nothing is omitted, except a disquisition upon the Song of Solomon, for which a shorter notice is substituted." In this shorter notice, he refers to what he had formerly written in the following words:—(the italics are the Doctor's):

"In the second edition . . . (and) I concluded by saying, 'Whatever weight the reasons here intimated may have upon the question, whether the Song of Solomon belonged to the Jewish Canon, as it was sanctioned by our Lord and his Apostles, they can have no influence upon the validity of our arguments from any part of the Old Testament, or upon any religious fact or principle whatever. On the contrary, exception confirms the rule, and places in a stronger light the inspired character of everything that is sacred or religious in the Hebrew writings. The truth remains unaltered, that the Holy Scriptures of the Old Testament were given by inspiration of God, that their chief object is to testify of Christ, that this testimony is the spirit of prophecy, and that therein we have eternal life.' To the seven pages of that disquisition, I added, in the third edition, fourteen more, intended to present an impartial view of the arguments in favour of the canonical authority of the book, including a brief defence of it, with which I had been privately favoured by Professor Pusey, of Oxford; and to that statement subjoining my own remarks. . . . Painful was the position, after a review of such considerations and their opposites, to have been bound to confess myself still unable to regard the book called the Song of Solomon, to be a part of Holy Scripture, given by inspiration of God, the standard of faith and rule of obedience." That conclusion and the promises from which it was drawn, together with the general subject of Inspiration, were brought into a searching and vigorous examination, by my friends, and brethren in the ministry, the Rev. Dr. James Bennett, and the Rev. William Walford. The discussions, replies, and rejoinders, including an able essay on the affirmative side, by the Rev. Benjamin Rice, occupy many pages in the *Congregational Magazine* for 1837 and 1838. It will, I trust, be sufficient to state here the general issue.

"With gratitude to my admonisher, I acknowledged that the argument from Melito is not only conducted by him with great ability, but that it now appeared to me unanswerable, and decisive of the question that the book was a part of the Hebrew Canon in the apostolic age. It was blameable in me not to have studied more closely the passage of Melito. Had I so done, perhaps I might have drawn some of the inferences which Dr. Bennett has presented in so striking a manner. At least, it might have satisfied me to suppress, if I could not exterminate, my difficulties arising from internal characters."

"Yet I am, unhappily perhaps for myself, compelled to acknowledge that heavy difficulties still adhere to me, as to the application of the book. All that my examiners have written falls short of convincing me that a spiritual meaning can be established." (*Script. Tes.* i. 34.)

The remainder of this new note on Solomon's Song, contains further, only a demonstration of the impossibility of an allegorical interpretation; and all that the Doctor acknowledges of error, is, that the testimony of Melito is decisive of the canonicity of the book. But it will be observed, that he refers to the fact that "the general subject of Inspiration" was brought into the controversy; but gives no intimation whatever—as his proverbial candour would surely have done, if it had really been the case—that he had, even at this date, 1847-8, in any respect modified or receded from his opinions upon the inspiration of the Old Testament. On the contrary, he reproduces a passage, which speaks of "the inspired character of everything sacred or religious in the Hebrew writings;" and neither condemns it, nor retracts it, nor modifies it. The controversy which, by its singular character, seemingly forced a momentary

self-contradiction, in the Doctor's criticism of an Oxford divine, had passed away for nine or ten years, when he returned to the reproduction of what he had written before it arose; and then he confessed to no alteration in his previously published deliberate view of Inspiration.

But more than this—that he still held the view of a limitation of Inspiration to the moral and religious element of the Old Testament, he himself has put beyond doubt. Every Homerton student knows that Dr. Smith prepared his own *Indexes* with unparalleled care; and Mr. Farrer, the editor of the "First Series of Theology," makes a special reference to the fact that the index to the *Scripture Testimony* was so prepared. Now, in the index to the fourth edition, date 1848, is the following item:—

"Inspiration: . . . Attaches only to the theological and religious part of the O. T., 28, 30, 34."

Mark the words:—then let us turn up the references. The first is to the very passage, quoted by the Doctor himself in *Congregational Magazine*, 1838; and requoted by the *British Quarterly* as proof of something like a retraction of the view which Dr. Smith indexes it as expressing! The second reference is to a page which discusses the *Chronicles*,—of which Dr. Smith has elsewhere said, that they seem to have been written by an unscrupulous Jew, desirous of glorifying his nation,—and on this page is the sentence:—"All religious truth stands up in peerless majesty, unaffected by these little shoals of accidental sand." And the third reference, is to the very passage on which we have already commented, as commencing the new note on Solomon's Song, and quoted by the Doctor from his former "disquisition" on the same subject; and which, therefore, it is evident he did not withdraw, when withdrawing a special opinion on a question of the canon:—and this is the sentence on "the inspired character of everything that is sacred or religious in the O. T."

While upon the subject of the Inspiration of the Old Testament, we will give an extract from a letter written by Dr. Smith to Mr. Robert Hall-dane, in 1826:—

"That with regard to some parts of the Old Testament, there are extreme difficulties in applying the New Testament terms—the Writing—the Writings—the Holy Writings—the Oracles of God—what is written in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms—e.g. I can find no determinate evidence that the Song of Solomon and the Book of Esther come under those denominations. That they are genuine books, and the latter a true history, I have no doubt: but I do doubt whether they were included in the New Testament terms just mentioned. I fear that the narrator of Esther was influenced by a very weak and sinful fear of the Persian Court, and that thus he obtained from 'scribing unto Jehovah the glory due unto His name,' which, I think, a godly Jew could scarcely have kept himself from doing, when relating such astonishing dispensations of Providential mercy and judgment. Yet the facts are not less certain, nor is our instruction prevented, from the sad omission of any reference to the name, perfections, government, word, and worship of the Blessed God." (*Medway's Life*, p. 285.)

We will undertake to say confidently, that Homerton students have often heard similar statements from Dr. Pye Smith, down to the very close of his Tutorship: and, we may add, that in 1844, the Doctor, in a letter to ourselves (kindly intended, and effectively adapted, to aid us under the pressure of difficulties respecting the Old Testament, at that time), gave expression to precisely the same views. The passage given above may be left to speak for itself, and to throw its own light on Dr. Pye Smith's view and its implications.

Thirdly,—the *British Quarterly* states that, "so far as the writer remembers," "nothing like Dr. Smith's language on this question had ever been avowed in this country by any Evangelical Nonconformist." The writer has failed either in memory or in observation. On the publication of his opinions on Inspiration, Dr. Smith made numerous extracts from his predecessors in the treatment of the subject. Amongst other extracts are these, from Mr. Parry, of Wymondley:—

"It follows, that there was no necessity for inspiration, or immediate suggestion from the Spirit of God, to inform the apostles of many things in Christianity; for they knew them already, from the discourses of Christ and their own observation. But it does not follow that, merely as honest and uninspired men, they could have given such a full, just, and consistent account of those things as is contained in their writings. . . . The Holy Spirit taught them all things respecting Christianity which they did not already know:—the whole of that religious truth which it was necessary for them to teach, or for men to know. There was nothing in what they declared of the Christian system, but what they had received, either from the teachings of the Holy Spirit, or from the instructions of Christ, which were of equal validity, or from the evidence of their senses, which could not deceive them: so that they must have been preserved from error or mistake concerning it." (*Parry's Inquiry*, 2nd edition, pp. 15, 16.)

In the whole of this passage, Mr. Parry goes beyond Dr. Pye Smith, because he speaks specially of the New Testament: and it will be observed, that he makes the writers' preservation from error or mistake depend, not in all cases on the superintendence of the Spirit, but declares "the evidence of their senses" to be a means of such



preservation, in matters on which such evidence was possible. Again, he says:—

"Maintaining that the apostles were under the infallible direction of the Holy Spirit, as to every religious sentiment contained in their writings, secures the same advantages as would result from supposing that every word and letter was dictated to them by his influences, without being liable to those objections which might be made against that view of the subject. . . . We could have had no more in their writings than a PERFECT RULE, as to all religious opinions and duties, all matters of faith and practice. But such a perfect rule we have in the New Testament, if we consider them as under the Spirit's infallible guidance in all the religious sentiments they express, whether he suggested the very words in which they are written or not. Upon this view of the subject, the inspired writings contain a perfect and infallible account of the whole will of God for our salvation; of all that is necessary for us to know, believe, and practice in religion: and what can they contain more than this, upon any other view of it? (Parry: Second Edition, pp. 31, 32.)

"If the inspiration and guidance of the Spirit, respecting the writers of the New Testament, extended only to what appears to be its proper province, matters of a religious and moral nature; then there is no necessity to ask, whether everything contained in their writings were suggested immediately by the Spirit or not. . . . Although, therefore, such things may be found in parts of the evangelic history, or in epistles addressed to Churches or individuals, and may stand connected with important declarations concerning Christian doctrine or duty, yet it is not necessary to suppose that they were under any supernatural influence in mentioning such common or civil affairs, though they were as to all the sentiments they inculcated respecting religion." (Ib. 26, 27.)

Mr. Parry's work, from which Dr. Smith took these extracts—and which are also given by Mr. Horne, with approbation—was published in 1797. The reviewer is refuted by them. We have given them at some length for the sake of their importance. Dr. Pye Smith, we repeat, went hardly so far: Dr. Davidson goes no farther; and we are tolerably certain that there is not a sentiment, and scarcely an expression, in Mr. Parry's book, to which Dr. Davidson would not assent. Mr. HORNE goes farther than them all. Seriously,—for readers will think we joke,—he does so. In successive editions of his *Introduction*, he has repeated the statement that it is "not to be supposed" that the writers were "inspired in every fact which they related, or in every precept which they delivered." (10th edition, p. 528.) If their precepts—their moral and religious utterances—are not all inspired, we shall soon reach the evacuation of the authority of the Scriptures altogether! But we return to the matter in hand.

Fourthly: the reviewer states, that, in the *Congregational Magazine* for 1838, Dr. Smith "cedes all that could be desired," and that "this, so far as he knows, is the last deliverance" of Dr. Pye Smith on this question. Then, all we can say is, and so much we are bound to say, that the reviewer knows nothing at all about it. It is not only what new matter Dr. Pye Smith penned after this date, but what he republished, that must be taken as his "last deliverance": for each of the Doctor's various works was, in each successive edition, most carefully reconsidered and revised, with remarkable candour; and was brought down conscientiously to the latest state of his knowledge, and reflected the latest phase of his conviction. Everyone who knew Dr. Smith personally, and everyone who really knows his works, will be able to testify to the truth of what we affirm.

We already have stated, that, in 1848, ten years later than the reviewer's supposed "last deliverance" of the Doctor's opinion, he issued a corrected and enlarged edition of the *Scripture Testimony*, in which was a new note on Solomon's Song. That edition also contains everything that Dr. Smith had previously put forth on *Inspiration*, in the edition of 1837—the old note on Solomon's Song excepted. Thus, we have him reaffirming in 1848, all that he had before professed; and this must be accepted as his thought and conviction on the subject at this last date. In confirmation, he added to his quotations in his 1848 edition, a considerable passage containing the views of Dr. Arnold:—of which the following is a part, the italics being ours:—

"The late Dr. Thomas Arnold approached the human side of the Bible in the same real spiritual spirit, with the same method, rules, and principles, as he did Thucydides. He recognised in the writings of the Scriptures the use of a human instrument, language; and this he would ascertain and fix, as in any other authors, by the same philological rules. Further, too, the Bible presents an assemblage of historical events; it announces an historical religion: and the historical element Arnold judged of historically, by the established rules of history, substantiating the general veracity of Scripture, even amidst occasional inaccuracies of detail; and proposing to himself for his special end here, the reproduction, in the language and forms belonging to our own age, and therefore familiar to us, of the exact mode of thinking, feeling, and acting, which prevailed in the days gone by. But was this all? Is the Bible but a common book; recording, indeed, more remarkable occurrences, but in itself possessed of no higher authority than a faithful and trustworthy historian like Thucydides? Nothing could be further from Dr. Arnold's feeling. In the Bible he found and acknowledged an oracle of God, a positive and supernatural revelation made to man, an immediate inspiration of the Spirit. . . . He did not start with any preconceived theory of Inspiration; but rather, in studying the writings of those who were commissioned by God to

preach his Gospel to the world, he met with the fact that they claimed to be sent from God, to have a message from him, to be filled with his Spirit. Any accurate, precise, and sharply defined theory of Inspiration, to the best of my knowledge, Arnold had not; and if he had been asked to give one, I think he would have answered that the subject did not admit of one. He would have been sure, on one side, that there was a voice of God in them; whilst, on the other, he would have believed that probably no one in the apostolic age could have defined the exact limits of that inspiration." (Stanley's *Life of Arnold*: quoted, *Scrip. Tes.* i. 69.)

Now, we argue nothing from the insertion of this extract by the Doctor, except the fact, that, down to 1848, he continued to take cognizance of, and apparently to approve, that view of Inspiration which admits not only variations, but "inaccuracies" in "the historical element" of Scripture, and which demands that it be "judged historically;" and which, admitting "limits" of inspiration, yet perpetrates no "sharply-defined theory;" and which, "substantiating" for itself the "general veracity" of Scripture history, owns also the presence and independence of "a positive and supernatural revelation." Dr. Pye Smith closed his 1848 additions to the Note on *Inspiration*, by "recommending to serious study the *Inquiry into the Proofs, Nature, and Extent of Inspiration*;" by the Rev. Dr. Hinds—now Bishop of Norwich. Dr. Smith's biographer, Mr. Medway, giving the reference to this recommendation, in a note, selects the following sentences as "showing what are the sentiments of this learned Prelate:—

"There are portions of the Bible which must have been written under a general commission, and others from special instruction. The predictive parts of the prophetic books must have been the result of positive and particular directions; the history, on the other hand, and the apostolic epistles, may be more properly classed, perhaps, among the ordinary acts of an extraordinary agency,—that is, the general inspiration to write—the general commission and qualifications were given; the details of their duty left, to a certain extent, to their own choice." (Hinds: 119, 120: quoted in *Medway's Life of Dr. Smith*, pp. 307, 8.)

Mr. Medway's next sentence after this quotation is: "It is scarcely necessary to say that Dr. Smith's own views of Inspiration remained unchanged down to the last edition of the *Scripture Testimony*, and, indeed, to the end of his life among us." (P. 308.) This is a most reliable and important testimony.

But the proof that the Doctor ceded nothing to his opponents on the *Inspiration* question, and that 1838 did not witness his last deliverance thereon, is to be found elsewhere, besides the 1848 edition of his great work, and in Mr. Medway's *Life*. It was not till 1839, that Dr. Smith delivered the "Congregational Lecture" on *Scripture and Geology*; and there was no dealing honestly with that subject without touching very intimately the *Inspiration* question: and, accordingly, the Lecture contains a pretty full and explicit deliverance upon it. This lecture went through four editions during the author's lifetime; the last in 1848, in which he made two or three inconsiderable changes in the text, and greatly enlarged the notes. But, what was said in 'thirty-nine on this topic, after the ceding and falling back imputed to him, remains unchanged in 1848. What, then, is this deliverance? Here is a collection of passages, brought together, not by dint of search, but by the aid of simple familiarity with the book:—

"That which is thus declared [the words of the Lord are pure words, &c.] concerning the 'exceeding great and precious promises' of Divine grace, is equally true of every other part of what God has been pleased to reveal, for the purposes of his wisdom and benevolence to mankind; 'for doctrine, for reproof, for conversion, and for instruction in righteousness.' The most scrupulous student of the Bible will not accuse me of making an arbitrary application of Scripture, because from this particular instance, upon the principle of evident analogy, I deduce a universal truth. That truth is, that every declaration contained in the writings of the prophets and apostles, which has a respect to the faith, the obedience, the consolation, and the usefulness of believers; and when understood in the sense intended by the author of inspiration, possesses the purity of the best refined silver, the *Infallibility of unmixt Truth*. (New ed., p. 214.)

"If it was not unworthy of the Adorable Majesty of God to permit HIMSELF to be described in terms infinitely beneath him ['in language borrowed from the bodily and mental constitution of man,' &c.], and which require rigorous watchfulness and pious care, lest we take up with conceptions far remote from the spirituality of the Divine Nature, and the purity of Christian worship; MUCH MORE may it be regarded as consonant with the honour of his word, that its references to natural objects should be in the character of thought and expression, such as comported with the knowledge of the age in which they were delivered. . . . We are fully warranted by Divine authority to translate the language of the Old Testament upon physical subjects, into such modern expressions, as shall be agreeable to the reality of the things spoken of." (Pp. 241, 243.)

"It is most evident that any person not acquainted with the true system of the world, would after his most careful study of this portion of the Bible, [Genesis 1 and 2] rest in the conclusions, that our earth is, not in moral importance only, but in physical magnitude, by far the greatest of the Creator's works; and that the entire furniture of the heavens is solely a provision for our convenience and comfort." (Pp. 256, 7.) . . . "It is also evident that the completion of Revelation, by the Christian Scriptures, did not include any purpose of teaching the topics of natural knowledge, or correcting the current opinions of

the ancients on this class of subjects. . . . The grand design, above all others in excellence and glory, is thus declared: 'These things are written, that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,' &c." (P. 257.)

"But I almost hear the exclamation from a thousand tongues, 'What are you doing? Whither are you driving? Are you not trampling upon, not the inspiration only, but the veracity of the Holy Scriptures?'

Let it be freely admitted that it is no part of the design of God, in giving a revelation of his moral will, to communicate lessons of physical philosophy; yet [this does not involve the admission that, when the instruments of revelation advert to physical causes and operations, they should not speak according to the reality of things. A well-informed and correct speaker, when he is talking freely about common affairs, and when nothing is farther from his mind than to be teaching history or geography, yet will not so express himself as to imply ignorance of historical or geographical facts. Surely we cannot think less of the inspired writers. 'If Moses professes by *Deuter.* inspiration to give an account of the manner in which the world was framed, he must describe the facts as they occurred.' (Richard Watson's *Institutes*.) 'This may seem an unanswerable objection; but, will it stand a fair examination? I THINK NOT: for two reasons.' (P. 279.)

"If the view of the range of Inspiration, that its proper and sole reference is to religious subjects be rejected, it will inevitably follow that we must impute error to the Spirit of God. Abhorred be the thought!" (P. 281.)

Here, then, is a deliverance, later than the latest of our reviewer, in which, so far from anything being ceded, the very position described as startling, and "so far from being maintained that," &c., &c., is once more and emphatically reaffirmed in the plainest possible language—"the proper and sole reference of Inspiration is to religious subjects"! In our own opinion, however, Dr. Pye Smith undoubtedly always held, in connexion with this view, the substance of what he also stated in the *Congregational Magazine*, as quoted in the *British Quarterly*:—viz, that "even with respect to common and natural things, the declarations of the Bible are infallible, when interpreted by the use of proper means, and the final sense is thus elicited." The apparent contradiction is in the last phrases:—the use of proper means of interpretation, in such cases, was, in Dr. Smith's judgment, "the translation" of the ancient representations into modern conceptions—a principle with which as much may be done by the interpreter, as by any theory of the limitation of inspiration; and, further, the final sense was never, to Dr. Smith's mind, the mere natural or historical information, but some relation of the natural facts or historical events to the operation and government of God—some principle, which, when ascertained, threw back its light on the actual and real in history and nature, which underlay the formally incomplete and inaccurate statements, of which alone the historical writers were in their own time capable. But he strongly declined to impute, what he himself calls, their "errors," to the Spirit of God. These remarks will be perfectly understood if we now extract a sentence from the *First Lines of Theology*—(of which, more afterwards.)

"It has been the plan of Divine wisdom to give the blessing of revelation an historical form; and the Old Testament contains the series of these communications from the earliest of them, through successive periods of unfolding. . . . All moral truths rest upon the same immutable basis—the perfections of God. Therefore they are and will be always obligatory upon our faith. Our duty is to separate them, by judicious and faithful comparison with the more advanced stages of revelation, from their personal, local, and temporary investments; and thus bring out expressions of eternal truths. The process is analogous to the resolution of equations in algebra." (Pp. 77, 78.)

The last sentence may leave the Doctor's knowledge of the processes of algebra, very doubtful; but it is not doubtful what he intends as to *Inspiration*, if we add the following passages:—

"The perfection and sufficiency of Scripture are not to be regarded as comprehending matters of physical science. . . . It is sufficient that they be susceptible of a fair explication, which is, indeed, but a species of translating from a foreign and ancient mode of speech to a native and modern one. [An instance given by the doctor in illustration is, "An evil spirit from the Lord troubled Saul." (*First Lines*: p. 73)]

"[As a corollary to a proposition on the 'complete though various' inspiration of the Canonical Books of the Old and New Testament,—the following:] The Canonical Scriptures are a safe and perfect ground of THEOLOGICAL knowledge; and are of absolute necessity." (P. 83.)

Respecting the posthumous volume quoted in these extracts, it is, perhaps, desirable that we should say, that, though not prepared by Dr. Smith for the press, it may undoubtedly be considered as the expression of his final views on Theology in general; as it was revised every college session, during forty-five years, and, as the editor says, "enlarged, modified, and corrected, as increasing knowledge and ripening judgment suggested."

On the whole, then, we consider that we have taken the wind out of the sails of any person seeking to sail under the *Congregational Magazine* of 1838, as Dr. Smith's "last deliverance on the question of inspiration."

Lastly, that we may give prominence to the real complexion of Dr. Pye Smith's general views of Inspiration; and that we may vindicate the sanction of his name for views which are—as we



said in reviewing Dr. Davidson's work—in essential principle the same; we shall now take two passages from the *Scripture Testimony*: and we select these especially, because Mr. Medway, in his Life of Dr. Pye Smith, has given them as representative of the Doctor's views:—

"The communication from God to a mortal of knowledge which could not be, or had not been obtained in any other way, by his immediate influence on the human mind, is REVELATION. The qualifying of a recipient of revelation to communicate the revealed knowledge to his fellow-creatures with perfect certainty and accuracy is INSPIRATION. Of the mode of inspiration we are necessarily ignorant. It is not revealed, and it is beyond the range of human experience since the apostolic age. . . . The Holy Scriptures . . . have been committed to writing under such a kind and degree of Divine influence, that is, inspiration, as was REQUISITE in every case; whether of the most complete suggestion, or of assisting and directing the ordinary faculties of those whom the Most High was pleased to employ as the subjects of inspiration. . . . Yet the result in each and every case is practically the same; the full certainty of DIVINE TRUTH as the ground of our faith, and the perception of Divine Authority as the obligation binding us to obedience." (Vol. i., pp. 24-25.)

"The great PRINCIPLE of a COMPLETE INSPIRATION of the Apostles, warranting our dependence upon the CERTAIN TRUTH of every declaration which they have delivered as a Doctrine, Duty, Elucidation, or Application of RELIGION, has been established by abundant proofs." (Ib. 57.)

To these passages we might add others, but they would be those common alike to the third and fourth editions of the *Scripture Testimony*. We will give one, however, which is not unnecessary to some persons who join in discussions on this subject, and who represent the authority of the Bible, and the stability of the Christian faith, to be dependent on some strongly-marked theory of inspiration. But Dr. Smith says:—

"We should not forget that the instruction or religious benefit, which is derived from any doctrinal position or historical fact applied to the mind, does not, strictly speaking, depend upon its inspiration, but upon that which the inspiration presupposes, namely, its TRUTH. That which is evinced to be true, whatever may be the channel through which it has entered our minds, we are bound by our relation to the system of God's moral government to believe, and, having believed, we are equally bound to act according to it." (*Scripture Testimony*, 4th edition, vol. i., p. 59.)

In the spirit of this passage we venture to add, that, to bind up the authority and efficacy of the Scriptures with the question of their inspiration, —as inseparable from some mode of theorising on their phenomena as inspired,—is "to throw the Bible under the feet of infidels;" and while, not less than the most orthodox divines, we maintain the canonical books to be "given by inspiration of God;" and that this fact of inspiration must make itself felt and acknowledged, though all theories about it should break down and prove impossible; yet most calmly and earnestly would we ever resist a tendency (which the *British Quarterly* reviewer has done his best to encourage), to rest "the power of the truths of the Bible with the people," on either a traditional opinion, or a superstitious prepossession, or an intellectual settlement of the question, that the Bible is inspired. We believe that "the power of its truths with the people" rests on its containing "the testimony of Jesus;" on "the heavenliness of the matter;" the full discovery it makes of the way of man's salvation;" and on the prefiguration (as Coleridge phrases it) of its moral and religious truths and precepts to the nature and circumstances of man. This power it exerts "with the people," in minds to which the question of inspiration, in any sense, has never presented itself; and this power it will continue to exert, all "views" of inspiration notwithstanding. Indeed, it is from the inherent power of the Truths of the Bible, that the true conviction of its Inspiration springs; and, as the Westminster Confession says, though there are many "arguments whereby it doth evidence itself to be the Word of God; yet, notwithstanding, a full persuasion and assurance of the infallible truth and Divine authority thereof, is from the inward work of the Spirit, bearing witness by and with the word in our hearts." It is amazing to us, to hear an orthodox-evangelical divine represent "the power of the truths of the Bible" as so dependent on something besides themselves, that he can say, that "the doctrine which teaches that only the religious and moral element of the Scriptures is inspired, . . . could not become the received doctrine of our people, without proving a death-blow to the Christian piety of these nations!" Was there then no Christian piety before the doctrine of an inspiration of the contents of the Bible en masse, began to prevail,—and we might almost say, with Hagenbach and Tholuck before us, sprang up—in the seventeenth century? And has God suspended the efficacy of His "glorious Gospel"—the power of the truths He has been graciously pleased to reveal by, and in the atoning death of, His Son—on an antecedent theory, or, at least, an implied opinion, as to the nature and extent of Inspiration? "Abhorred be the thought!" as our venerable author of the *Scripture and Geology* said to us just now.

The *British Quarterly* closes its inaccuracies as to Dr. Pye Smith's opinions, by seeking to destroy

the value of any opinion proceeding from the Doctor on this subject. Its words are—

"The Doctor was a learned and a sincerely pious man; but he was a mere child in practical judgment, and in that knowledge of human nature, without which no man can judge wisely concerning such a doctrine as we have now under consideration."

We conclude that we do not understand what is intended by the last part of the remark; for the only meaning we can extract from it seems to us a pure absurdity. Nor do we stay to vent our indignation on the derogatory words;—although we think, that no one ought to have written them, unless he had some immediate object to gain, in destroying the weight and influence of Pye Smith's name as a theologian. People will form their own judgment on the matter. All we care to do, in concluding, is, to invite our readers to hear from this "mere child," how he formed his opinions on this special subject of Inspiration:—

"They have grown up during a period which I cannot estimate at much less than forty years. Their seeds were sown in my mind more than that time ago, by a minister of very eminent usefulness, a strict and high Calvinist, and to whom, as a friend, an instructor, and a pastor, my childhood and youth were under obligations never to be forgotten. Sometimes I have felt a disposition to envy my more happy brethren, who, setting out in the work of the ministry with a general conviction of the certainty of Evangelical doctrines, founded on sufficient, though not, widely comprehensive, knowledge of evidences, are never troubled with controversial difficulties, but continue in the works of zeal and love, their faith strong, their labours greatly blessed, and their joy increasing to the end. Different has been my lot. From early youth I was in private and friendly association with persons who had been brought up in a denial of the primary truths of the Gospel. From the commencement of more serious habits and studies, I had Arian and Unitarian friends whom I could not but esteem; and some of them had expectations that I should join their party.

"When it pleased God to put me into a situation of awful responsibility as an academical tutor, fully settled as my own mind was (I can never sufficiently bless God for it!) upon the truth of all the grand doctrines of redemption and grace, I could not think myself excused from the obligation of working up from the foundation.

"I had pupils to guide and assist in studying for the Christian ministry. I could not satisfy myself with delivering to them only the positive form of doctrine. My duty was to go with them into the grounds of Biblical and Theological science; to instruct and aid their understandings; not to bribe or force their judgments. Bound to look with equal steadiness at moral dispositions and at theoretical investigations, I felt it my duty to march with them through the enemy's territory, seeking to have, and hold, and wield, the armour which is mighty through God. After so many years of toil, anxiety, and I humbly add, prayer for the blessings promised by the Father of light; accused, on the one hand, of obstinacy and prejudice, and on the other sometimes charged with anti-evangelical predilections; I have obtained help from God, and continue to this moment." . . . (*Medway's Life*, p. 522.)

We have completed our task. We did not choose it. Love and veneration for Dr. Pye Smith would have led us, at any time, to take notice of such an amount of incorrect representation. But when that very incorrect representation, in the *British Quarterly*, was followed by the *Eclectic*, we felt that the two between them might spread almost any amount of misconception on the subject; and we thought it well to go into the matter thoroughly. And when we saw the evident bearing, if not the intentional bearing, of these passages respecting Dr. Pye Smith, on Dr. Davidson's quotation of his views, and on our own further declarations respecting them, it seemed necessary, even at this great length, to expose the mistakes, and, considering what he undertook to affirm, the very insufficient information, of the *British Quarterly* reviewer. And, as the waters of controversy were unavoidable, we have endeavoured that they should be as little as possible, to us and to others concerned, the "waters of bitterness."

*The Good Old Times*: a Tale of Auvergne. By the Author of "Mary Powell." London: Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.

The pleasant writer of "Mary Powell," and "Ye Household of Sir T. More," and "The Provocations of Madame Palissy," and a half-dozen other charming romances, printed in quaint type, and read always with pleasure, needs not that this new book of hers should be ushered in by any recommendation of ours. When we say that it well sustains the literary position already attained by the author, we have said all that is required of us as reviewers. The scene is laid in Auvergne, and the time some three centuries since, when the Papacy was desolating the fair valleys of France, Italy, and Piedmont, with merciless cruelty. The story is very simple and well told—of a poor family removing from a lone district to Le Puy; meeting with Bertrand, the good and wise Protestant; and becoming gradually and intelligently enlightened through scriptural teaching; meeting with no end of deep trouble, out of which, after long trial of patience, they are delivered; together with sundry episodes of touching interest, tenderly told, in which the "good old times" are shown to be very bad times for individual safety, social prosperity, and national greatness. There is scarcely a plot in this fiction; the author throws herself back upon the times she describes, and in a series of well-sustained conversations, relieved by so much of event as preserves them from monotony, gives a lively and truthful picture of the

days of persecution long since gone by, never we hope similarly to return. Some of the descriptions of scenery and the "still life" of other parts are very exquisite. As the book will be sure to find its public, we can only say we have read it with much pleasure, and are sure that this will be the general impression.

*The Sisters of Solitude*: a Tale of the Sixteenth Century. By C. S. W. London: James Nisbet and Co. PRESUMING this to be a maiden production, in a double sense, we need not subject it to any stern rules of criticism. C. S. W. will write well, when that "greatest art, the art to blot" has been learned. Meanwhile we would kindly suggest that the next novel, for this is a religious novel, should have a true historical basis; and though Popery is an unmitigated evil, especially as developed in the Papal States, yet that we must not be Jesuitical in our defence of the truths and faiths of Protestantism. To minds of a morbid condition this book will not reveal its unhealthy tone; but others will detect too much of the jaunty three-volume-novel style in its entire getting up, and to them, as to us, this tale will appear to be of doubtful tendencies.

*Elements of Mental and Moral Science*. By GEORGE PAYNE, LL.D. Fourth Edition. London: John Snow. DR. PAYNE's chief work needs no description or commendation to our readers. It is not only the principal work in mental and moral science which has proceeded from the quarter of Congregationalism, but is, also, one of the few modern English works in philosophy which have proceeded steadily through several editions, with increasing acceptance and repute. Those who are far from adherents of Dr. Payne's system, will ever respect his book for the clearness with which its doctrine is stated, and for the marks of penetrating acuteness, and habits of thorough and accurate thinking, in the author. In the department of morals, Dr. Payne's power of analysis has effected the exposure of many confusions and errors, which haunt this region, and from time to time find believers and exponents. The present edition of this work is the handsomest in which it has ever appeared.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Elah. R. Hardwicke.  
Boy Princes. D. Bogue.  
The Heroes of Asgard. Ibid.  
The Wanderer, Fantasia, and Vision. J. Hogg.  
The Little World of London. Hall, Virtue, and Co.  
Pencilings in Poetry. Ibid.  
Time and Faith. Two vols. Groombridge and Son.  
The Book and its Missions. Kent and Co.  
Landmarks of the History of Greece. G. Routledge and Co.  
Scott's Poetical Works. Vol. I. J. Nicholl.  
The Ladder of Life. G. Routledge and Co.  
Violet. Ibid.  
The Haunted House. Ibid.  
Dingleby, Old and New. W. and F. G. Cash.  
My Life. Wertheim and McIntosh.  
The Pastor's Prayer for the People's Welfare. J. Nisbet and Co.  
Consolator. Hamilton, Adams, and Co.  
The Seven Churches. Knight and Son.  
Cloud Shadows. Longman and Co.  
The Foreign Sacred Lyre. Jackson and Walford.  
Things that Differ. Jarrold and Son.  
How to Make Home Happy. D. Bogue.  
The Paragraph Bible—Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon. S. Bagster and Son.  
The Paragraph Bible—Luke. Ibid.  
Helps to Truth Seekers. Judd and Glass.  
Upward and Onward. Partridge and Co.  
Poems and Songs by J. McDougall. A. Hall and Co.  
An Inquiry into the Origin of the Liverpool Town Dues. Richardson, Brothers.  
Revised English Version of the Holy Scriptures. Parts I. and II. Trübner and Co.  
Every Child's Scripture History. Dean and Son.  
George Whitefield. J. Snow.  
The Wreck of the Northern Belle. G. P. Bacon.  
The Mother's Friend. Ward and Co.  
The Christian Classics. J. Nisbet and Co.  
A Comprehensive Review of the Denison Heresy, in Two Parts. Part I. Partridge and Co.  
Heart Music for Working People. Ibid.  
On the Efficacy of Small Doses of Morphia. Edinburgh Medical Journal.  
Illustrated Almanack for 1857. Dean, Dray, and Co.  
Hand-book for the Oratorios—Judas Maccabeus. R. Cocks and Co.  
On the Roots and Evils of the Law. Wildy and Son.  
The Protestant Theological and Ecclesiastical Encyclopedia. T. and T. Clark.  
The Bible. W. Strange.  
Hand-book to the Aquarium. Whitely and Co.  
The Voice from Heaven. M. Brown.  
Fifty Songs of Zion. Partridge and Co.  
The Commentary Wholly Biblical. S. Bagster and Son.

#### Cleanings.

The admissions to the Crystal Palace for the week ending Feb. 6 were 5,858.

Many prayer-books are now sold with a looking-glass inserted in the inner side of the cover, in order that ladies may arrange their hair or admire themselves whilst using the book at church!

Preaching in Birmingham the other day, and finding many of the audience departing, "for obvious reasons," Mr. Spurgeon had the doors of the chapel locked till the collection was made.

The other evening, at the Halifax Institute, the steam of a *soirée* so acted upon an exquisite's adhesive moustaches, so that they tumbled into a lady's lap! Whether he has since been heard of we are not informed.

A Yankee proposes to build an establishment which he may drive a sheep into at one end, and have it come out at the other as four quarters of mutton, a felt hat, a pair of drawers, a leather apron, and a quarto dictionary.

The garotte is applied in Russia "with a difference." Two men hire a sledge in St. Petersburg at a late hour in the evening, and give the word for some place in the suburbs. One of them, in a convenient locality, throws a noose over the driver's head, and garottes



him. He is then made to deliver up the receipts of the day. This crime has been practised upon scores of victims.

Mr. Thackeray has postponed for another year the publication of a new novel—his lectures are too profitable to be relinquished at present.

Mr. William C. Pitman, conductor of the Penobscot and Kennebec railway train, was married the other day to Miss Frank Fuller, of Carmel, by the Rev. Mr. Allen, of Bangor, between Bangor and Waterville, in one of the railway cars!

After a christening, a few days ago, at a church in Southwark, while the minister was making out the certificate, he happened to say, "Let me see, this is the 30th?" "Thirtieth!" exclaimed the indignant mother, "indeed, it is only the *eleventh*!" The minister was alluding to the day of the month.

The Government architects have prepared plans for an alteration of the entrance hall of the Gallery in Trafalgar-square, meant to provide a bigger room, better lighted, for the ever-enlarging school of English sculpture. The present back room—the den—is to be thrown into the hall; a new dome is to rise on the roof and light the new room.—*Athenæum*.

The capitol of Missouri was in a state of great excitement on the 10th ult., when Governor Falk could not be "sworn in" for want of a Bible! High and low, a copy of the Sacred Volume was sought—none could be found. At the last moment, however, when the ceremony was about to be delayed for a day, a Bible was found in the Penitentiary.

The annual Exhibition of Works of Art by British living artists, at the British Institution, was thrown open to the public on Monday. The number of productions exhibited is in all 579, of which 565 are oil paintings. The remaining fourteen are in the class of sculpture. As an exhibition the present collection is somewhat above the average; and though there is no great work, as such, to be seen in it, there is a larger number than usual of pleasing productions.

Lady Franklin has addressed and published a letter to Lord Palmerston, seeking to engage the sympathy of those in power in the despatch of an expedition in search of the remains of the Franklin party. She endeavours to show that the proposed search may be made with slight hazard of life and very small cost, and observes: "This final and exhausting search is all I seek in behalf of the first and only martyrs to Arctic discovery in modern times, and it is all I ever intend to ask."

Rev. Nathaniel Howe, of Hopkington, exchanged with a brother on a Sabbath when the morning chanced to be rainy and the afternoon pleasant. Observing a much larger attendance at the second service, he commenced his prayer with the following: "O Lord; have mercy on *afternoon hearers and fair-weather Christians!*" When Dr. Smalley was ordained, this same minister said in the ordination prayer, "O Lord, may thy young servant put down the Methodists, and the Baptists, and the Universalists, and the Episcopalians, by preaching better, and praying better, and living better than they."—*Sprague's Annals of the American Pulpit*.

Some friends of the late Mr. Seddon, intimate with the rare artistic qualities of the deceased painter, have a desire to place his merits more conspicuously before the general public than they have yet been placed; and a committee has been formed to arrange an exhibition of his works during the approaching London season. A room at the Society of Arts has been granted for the purpose. Part of the scheme contemplated by the committee is to raise, if possible, a sum of money by public subscription for the purchase of Mr. Seddon's chief work, the oil painting of Jerusalem, with a view to its being offered, as a gift, to the Trustees of the National Gallery. The committee is strongly composed.

Lord Adolphus Vane Tempest had a complete break down the other day in endeavouring to enlighten a Sunderland audience on the Crimean Campaign. He said, that it was "a very unpleasant thing to make a failure," but he "felt honoured by the presence of the company, and would trust to their indulgence." By this time, his personal friends seated on the platform had begun to hold down their heads and to cast side glances at each other. Once, the mayor seemed to be giving the lecturer a hint to drop it; but his lordship went on to read extracts from his letters descriptive of the scenes at the Mamelon and the Redan. To describe the manner in which this part of the narrative was got over, says the local paper, is an impossibility.

The exultation of the Americans over the battle of Banker's Hill is one of the most curious of their national traits. An English gentleman was travelling, not long ago, on a railway in the United States; and having satisfied the curiosity of his neighbour in the carriage as to the number of his children, his reasons for marrying his wife, the clauses in his marriage settlement, the amount of his balance at his banker's, the provisions of his will, and other matters of general interest, became somewhat curious to know his friend's name. "No," was the answer, "I can't tell you." "Why not?" "You could not stand it." "O yes, I could." "No, you couldn't; it would not be fair to you; I'd rather not say." "Well, but I want to know, and I'll take my chance." "Well, if you must have it, you must; but mind, it's your own fault—my name's BUNKER!"—*Saturday Review*.

The Rev. W. M. Punshon, a Methodist minister of Leeds, has created quite a stir by his lecture in Exeter Hall yesterday week on "John Bunyan," one of the course of the Young Men's Christian Association. There was an overflowing audience, estimated at some 4,000. A correspondent of the *Daily News*, referring to the lecture says, "Perhaps there never was so eloquent an oration delivered in the building. Such force and fervour, such judgment and fancy, such winged words, weighty matter, and splendid

manner, I never before witnessed. And this seemed to be the universal feeling on the platform, in the galleries, and throughout the vast area, for not content with the usual demonstrations of applause, the great congregation once and again rose from their seats, and burst into a loud, prolonged, and triumphant hurrah. The speaker, thus occupied, delighted, transported us for upwards of two hours; and, I doubt not, he could have held us for hours longer, had his own strength permitted, graphically and gloriously describing the life, the writings, and the preaching of the immortal tinker."

The sterner sex must look to their boasted superiority. Ladies have lately taken the lead in poetry and novel writing. Miss Martineau writes some of the best leading articles in one of the morning papers, and Rosa Bonheur is confessedly the first animal painter of the day. Sculpture can now boast of a female mistress: "Among art students in Rome," says a correspondent of the *Daily News*, "is to be found in the studio of Mr. Gibson, Harriet Hosmer, a young American lady of decided genius, and of great force and energy of character. She is striking out a path of her own, with results so ample in the present, that there is scarcely any limit to the expectations that may be formed of a career so soundly and thoroughly commenced." Her *chef-d'œuvre* is a life size figure of the beautiful and unfortunate Beatrice Cenci when asleep in prison, just finishing in marble. Every inch of the figure sleeps—a profound sleep, but full of life and feeling.

#### BIRTHS.

Jan. 31, at Over Darwen, the wife of the Rev. R. P. CLARKE, of a son, still-born.

Feb. 5, at Parkfield, the wife of J. LORD, Esq., of the Inner Temple, of a daughter.

Feb. 6, at High-street, Notting-hill, Mrs. JOHN JOSEPH ROBINSON, of a son.

Feb. 6, at Clapham-common, Mrs. THOMAS DE LA GARDE GRISSELL, of a son.

Feb. 7, in St. James's-square, Lady LYTTELTON, of a son.

#### MARRIAGES.

Jan. 31, at Holy Trinity Church, Tulse-hill, by the Rev. J. W. Watson, M.A., Incumbent, Mr. RICHARD E. SANDELL, of Livingstone Lodge, Upper Tulse-hill, to SARAH ANN, eldest daughter of DANIEL HATTON, Esq., of Oakland House, Upper Tulse-hill.

Jan. 31, at St. Mary's, North-end, Fulham, by the Rev. S. B. Byers, GEORGE FRANCIS KEYS, M.R.C.S.L., Warwick-street, Regent-street, to CAROLINE, widow of JOHN KEYS, late of Her Majesty's Inland Revenue-office, and Acton, Middlesex.

Feb. 1, at Providence Chapel, Rochdale, by the Rev. W. Spencer, Mr. JAMES TAYLOR, widower, to Miss MARY ROYDS, both of Rochdale.

Feb. 6, at Scarborough, by the Rev. B. EVANS, the Rev. Wm. S. CHAPMAN, B.A., of Amersham, Bucks, to SARAH, eldest daughter of JOHN WHELDON, Esq., Mayor of Scarborough.

Feb. 7, at Homerton-row Chapel, by the Rev. William Palmer, assisted by the Rev. W. B. BOWEN, Mr. THOMAS COLLINS, of Dalton, to Miss EMMA ROBINSON, of Eaton Socon, Beds.

Feb. 7, at St. George's, Bloomsbury, by the Rev. E. Bayley, rector, BOWEN ELLERY, second son of HENRY SMITH, Esq., Boundary-road, St. John's-wood, to ANNE CAROLINE, only daughter of DANIEL CROWIN, Esq., of Bloomsbury-square.

#### DEATHS.

Jan. 24, at the Albion Hotel, at Plymouth, FRANCIS LLOYD, Esq., of Bathurst, River Gambia, in his twenty-sixth year. The deceased was the son of the late Captain EDWARD LLOYD, who went out to Africa with the late Mungo Park, and was one of the first English settlers at Bathurst.

Jan. 27, at Hoole House, Cheshire, ELIZA, widow of the late General Sir JOHN DELVES BROUGHTON, seventh Baronet of Broughton Hall, Staffordshire, and Dodington-park, Cheshire, and eldest daughter of the late PHILIP EGERTON, Esq., of Egerton and Oulton-park, Cheshire, aged eighty-six.

Feb. 1, MARY, daughter of D. CHRETHAM, Esq., of Broomhill, Rochdale, aged twenty-five.

Feb. 3, at Newport Pagnell, ELIZABETH ARMY, relict of the late Mr. GEORGE MORGAN, draper, aged fifty-nine.

Feb. 3, JOSEPH THOMPSON, Esq., of Five Houses, Clapton, deeply regretted and much respected, in his seventy-fifth year.

Feb. 3, at Belton House, East Lothian, Rear-Admiral J. HAY, aged seventy-one.

Feb. 4, at her residence, in the Cathedral-close, Norwich, HANNAH, widow of the late RICHARD CULLEY, merchant of that city, aged sixty-five.

Feb. 4, at Grange-road, MARY ANN, wife of Mr. NATHANIEL EASTY, aged sixty-one.

Feb. 4, at the house of his grandmother, BENJAMIN HARRISON, the only child of the late Rev. BENJAMIN SETMOUR, of Woburn Chapel, Tavistock-square.

Feb. 5, at Lightcliffe, ELLEN, the beloved wife of the Rev. H. B. CARRAK, Alredale College, Bradford, Yorkshire, aged thirty.

Feb. 5, at his residence, 4, Sussex-terrace, Old Brompton, SAMUEL GILES, Esq., Paymaster in the Royal Navy, in his seventy-ninth year.

Feb. 5, at 33, Cambridge-square, Hyde-park, after a protracted illness, ROSE FRANCES, second daughter of Mr. Serjeant MANNING, Q.A.S.

Feb. 5, at Wendover, Buckinghamshire, MARY ANN, widow of the late D. JEREMY, Esq., aged seventy-seven.

Feb. 7, EDWARD PATRICK, son of T. HAYBURN, Esq., of Clapham-common.

Feb. 8, at Ixworth, Suffolk, Mr. JAMES HOWES, of disease of the heart.

Feb. 8, at his residence, Stanhope-terrace, Hyde-park-gardens, GEORGE WEBB, Esq., Secretary to the Stock Exchange, in his seventieth year.

## Money Market, and Commercial Intelligence.

### CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The large influx of gold from Australia within the last few days (820,000*l.*) has had a very favourable effect on the Stock Market. Yesterday Consols recovered an eighth, and remained without fluctuation. To-day there has been a similar advance, with an appearance of firmness. In many classes of English railway stocks the rise amounted to  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., although speculative purchases are not usually prosecuted with freedom when the settlement is so near at hand. The decision of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to bring on his Budget at so early a date as Friday next has likewise been received with much satisfaction. The tendency towards improvement was chiefly kept in check to-day by an increase in the demand for money in the Stock Exchange. The current terms for short loans on Government Securities were 6 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and

at the latter rate some loans were taken from the Bank. This, however, arises chiefly from the operations of the parties who are compelled to borrow money on stock, in order to pay for the supplies of Australian gold destined for the Continent. Consols are 93 to 93 $\frac{1}{2}$  for Money, and 93 $\frac{1}{2}$  93 $\frac{1}{2}$  for the 5th proximo. The New Threes are firmer, viz., 93 $\frac{1}{2}$  93 $\frac{1}{2}$ . The Reduced are 93 $\frac{1}{2}$  93 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and Exchequer-bills par to 3s. prem. Bank Stock is 216 to 217 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; and India Stock, 220. Of the 820,000*l.* of gold received from Australia by the Morning Light and Heather Bell, 326,000*l.* has already been delivered in London and sold for exportation, chiefly to the Bank of France, but a large portion will, it is expected, be retained by the Bank of England. The 21,600*l.* brought by the Centurion from Sydney is not yet delivered.

For Foreign investments there is very little inquiry, but the quotations rule firmly. A moderate business has been transacted in Railway Shares, and, with the exception of Great Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire, prices have shown no material variation. British and Foreign Mining Shares have been quite neglected, and quotations are nominal. Joint-Stock Bank and Miscellaneous Shares are inactive and generally at former values.

The general reports from the manufacturing towns throughout the kingdom continue to show a steady trade, but on the average there has been less animation during the past week than for some time previously. At Manchester the demand has been dull, and lower rates have been accepted, the state of Liverpool cotton-market still inducing great caution. The Birmingham report describes no alteration in iron. The tone, however, is rather less firm. At Nottingham there has been an unusually large business in lace, and the transactions in hosiery have likewise been satisfactory. In the woollen districts prices are well maintained, and employment has been general, although scarcely so active as during the preceding week or two.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week comprised three vessels—two to Port Phillip and one to Hobart Town, with an aggregate capacity of 1,402 tons. The rates of freight continue to exhibit heaviness.

#### PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Consols	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
Consols for Account	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
5 per Cent. Red.	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 per Cent.	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
Annuitants	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock	—	230	—	—	219	230
Bank Stock	—	217 $\frac{1}{2}$	217 $\frac{1}{2}$	217 $\frac{1}{2}$	217 $\frac{1}{2}$	217 $\frac{1}{2}$
Exchequer-bills	1 pm	par	3 pm	par	3 pm	3 pm
India Bonds	1 pm	—	—	—	2 dia	1 pm
Long Annuitants	—	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	2 $\frac{1}{2}$

## The Gazette.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 23, for the week ending on Saturday, the 21st day of Jan., 1857.

#### ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued . . . . .	£23,937,300	Government Debt. . . . .	£11,015,100
		Other Securities. . . . .	3,489,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion . . . . .	9,463,300
		Silver Bullion. . . . .	—
	£23,937,300		£23,937,300

#### BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital. . . . .	£14,553,000	Government Securities (including Demand Weight Annuity) . . . . .	£11,857,114
Reserve . . . . .	3,401,606	Other Securities. . . . .	17,708,739
Public Deposits. . . . .	5,415,624	Notes. . . . .	4,764,065
Other Deposits. . . . .	10,530,424	Gold and Silver Coin . . . . .	877,076
Seven Day and other Bills . . . . .	806,940		
	£34,707,594		£34,707,594

Feb. 5, 1857. M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

### Friday, February 6, 1857.

#### BANKRUPTS.

ASHFIELD, C., Home-terrace, Hammersmith, boot and shoemaker, Feb. 20, March 20; solicitors, Messrs. Smith and Son, Barnard's-inn, Holborn.

EDWARDS, T., Everholt-street, St. Pancras, china dealer, Feb. 17, March 18; solicitor, Mr. Boydell, Queen-street, Bloomsbury.

HUMPHREY, C., Baker-street, Portman-square, bookseller, Feb. 18, March 17; solicitors, Messrs. King and George, King-street, Cheapside.

OLDFIELD, A., Devonshire-street, Bloomsbury, bookbinder, Feb. 18, March 17; solicitor, Mr. Shephard, Moorgate-street, City.

PERKIN, F., Cleveland-street, Fitzroy-square, dealer in foreign woods, Feb. 23, March 23; solicitors, Messrs. Ashurst and Co., Old Jewry, City.

PEACH, W., Derby, coal merchant, Feb. 17, March 17; solicitors, Messrs. Shaw, Derby; and Messrs. Wright, Birmingham.

DICKINSON, J., Harrogate, Yorkshire, lodging house keeper, Feb. 23, March 23; solicitors, Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds; and Mr. Neale, Leeds.

### Tuesday, February 10, 1857.

#### BANKRUPTS.

EDWARDS, W., High-street, Wapping, ale and porter merchant, Feb. 19, March 19; solicitor, Mr. Brown.

SKINNER, T., Sheffield, electro plater, Feb. 21, March 21; solicitors, Messrs. Hoole and Yeomans, Sheffield.

LEVI, H., Liverpool, clothier, Feb. 20, March 12; solicitor, Mr. Woodburn, Liverpool.

## Markets.

### COEN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Feb. 9.

The arrivals of foreign wheat last week were very moderate, and short of English this morning; the demand for either description was, nevertheless, very limited to-day, at about last week's prices. Some cargoes of English wheat have been sold from the coast for exportation to Spain and France. Norfolk flour dull sale, and the millers reduced the price of town-made 3s per sack; American barrels went off slowly at last Monday's



quotations. Fine malting barley steady, but inferior qualities difficult to quit, and 1s per quarter lower. Beans 1s, and peas 1s to 2s cheaper, with little doing. We had a fair supply of oats: the trade was quiet, and prices hardly so good as last week. Linseed in demand, and 1s to 2s dearer; cakes ready sale at full prices. For both red and white cloverseed there was more inquiry, and holders asked an advance.

BAITING.		FURNISH.	
Wheat—		Danish—	
Essex and Kent, Red	56 to 68	Konigsberg, Red	58 to 70
Do. White	58 to 74	Pomeranian, Red	58 to 74
Lincoln, Norfolk, and		Rostock	58 to 74
Yorkshire Red	—	Danish and Holstein	48 to 60
Scotch	56 to 64	East Friesland	58 to 62
Eye	38 to 40	Petersburg	52 to 64
Barley, malting	46 to 48	Riga and Archangel	—
Distilling	38 to 40	Polish Odessa	54 to 56
Malt (pale)	74 to 76	Marianopol	60 to 64
Beans, Maragan	36 to 44	Taganrog	—
Peas	—	Egyptian	46 to 48
Pigeon	—	American (U.S.)	60 to 70
Peas, White	42 to 44	Barley, Pomeranian	36 to 40
Grey	38 to 40	Konigsberg	—
Maple	38 to 40	Danish	42 to 44
Boilers	40 to 42	East Friesland	36 to 40
Tares (English new)	38 to 40	Egyptian	24 to 28
Foreign	36 to 38	Odessa	24 to 28
Oats (English feed)	22 to 24	Beans—	
Flour, town made, per		Horse	34 to 36
Sack of 200 lbs.	54 to 56	Pigeon	38 to 40
Linseed, English	—	Egyptian	34 to 36
Baltic	64 to 66	Peas, White	42 to 44
Black Sea	64 to 68	Oats—	
Hempseed	40 to 42	Dutch	19 to 21
Canaryseed	68 to 74	Jahde	19 to 21
Cloverseed, per cwt. of		Danish	17 to 19
112 lbs. English	50 to 56	Danish, Yellow feed	27 to 29
German	52 to 58	Swedish	24 to 26
French	58 to 60	Petersburg	23 to 25
American	60 to 62	Flour, per bar. of 100 lbs.	
Linseed Cakes, 150 lbs to 160		New York	35 to 37
Rape Cakes, 60 lbs to 70 per ton		Spanish, per sack	55 to 60
Rapeseed, 100 lbs to 120 per ton		Carawayseed	38 to 40

SEEDS. London, Monday, Feb. 9.—There have been very moderate imports of cloverseed during the past week; choice qualities of American red have advanced 3s per cwt, prices up to 7s for the Philadelphia; Baltimore not so much, but New York about 7s per cwt on the spot; parcels on passage, to include cost free on board, freight, and insurance, have been placed at about 6s, the purchasers taking the risk of voyage, and of their arriving in sufficient time for the season's demand. A moderate amount of English samples may now be seen, very little fine, and prices range very wide, making it difficult to quote very accurately. Trefoil sells steadily at fully as much money. Sainfoin goes off well. Canaryseed remains lifeless; old stocks cannot be moved; a few small lots of last year's growth find buyers at nearly previous rates.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9d to 9½d; of household ditto, 7½d to 8½d per 4 lbs. loaf.

BUTCHERS' MEAT. LONDON, Monday, Feb. 9.—We had a very moderate supply of foreign stock here to-day, but its general quality was tolerably prime. From our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts fresh up this morning were only moderate; with very few exceptions, they came to hand in good saleable condition. Although the attendance of butchers was not very numerous, the beef trade ruled steady at last Monday's currency, the best Scots producing 5s per 8 lbs. The arrivals from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire amounted to 2,000 Scots and Shorthorns; from other parts of England, 250 of various breeds; from Scotland, 350 Scots; and from Ireland, 70 oxen. We were again very scantily supplied with sheep, nearly the whole of which were in prime condition. The mutton trade was firm, and the prices realised last week were steadily supported. The best old Down realised 3s 6d per 8 lbs. Very few English calves were in the market, but the show of foreign was tolerably good. The veal trade was in a sluggish state at Friday's decline in value of 2d per 8 lbs. The top price was 5s 6d per 8 lbs. Pigs were in moderate supply, and dull in sale, on former terms.

Per 8 lbs to stick the calf.				Per 8 lbs to stick the calf.			
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3 4 to 3 6	Pr. coarse woolled	5 0 to 5 2	Second quality	3 4 to 3 6	Prime Southdown	5 4 to 5 6
Prime large oxen	4 2 to 4 4	Lge. coarse calves	3 10 to 3 12	Prime Scots, &c.	4 10 to 5 0	Prime small	5 2 to 5 4
Coarse inf. sheep	4 0 to 4 2	Large hogs	3 8 to 4 0	Second quality	4 0 to 4 2	Neat sm. porkers	4 6 to 5 0
Butchling calves, 2½ to 30s; Quarter-old store-pigs, 2½ to 28s; each.							

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Feb. 9.—The supplies of meat on offer in to-day's market were only moderate. For most kinds we had rather a slow inquiry, as follows:—

Per 8 lbs by the carcass.				Per 8 lbs by the carcass.			
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	3 0 to 3 4	Inf. mutton	3 6 to 3 10	Middling ditto	3 6 to 3 10	Middling ditto	4 0 to 4 4
Prime large do.	4 0 to 4 2	Prime ditto	4 4 to 4 8	Do. small do.	4 4 to 4 6	Veal	3 10 to 3 12
Large pork	3 8 to 4 4	Small pork	4 6 to 5 0				

PROVISIONS. LONDON, Monday, Feb. 9.—Of Irish butter we have scarcely anything new to report. A fair business was done last week in sundry kinds at 9s to 10s, and for best sorts at from 11s to 11½s. Foreign of prime quality was sold at from 12s to 12½s, other descriptions at from 9s to 10½s. In bacon very little was done until near the close of the week, and then some speculative sales were made, and to a respectable extent, at from 5s to 6s, according to condition, size, and quality. Hams were in moderate request for large at from 7s to 7½s, sizeable 8s to 8½s, small 8s to 9s. Lard was held with rather more firmness. Irish bladdered from 8s to 8½s, kegs 7s to 7½s; American refined 6s to 7s.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.			
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Friesland, per cwt.	130 to 135	Cheeshire, per cwt.	64 to 74
Kiel	130 to 135	Cheddar	74 to 84
Dorset	116 to 120	Double Gloucester	60 to 74
Carlisle	110 to 120	Single ditto	—
Waterford	—	York Hams	90 to 112
Cork (new)	108 to 116	Westmoreland ditto	104 to 110
Limerick	108 to 110	Irish ditto	96 to 100
Sligo	104 to 114	Wiltshire Bacon (dried)	70 to 76
Fresh, per dozen	14 to 16	Irish (green)	64 to 68

PRODUCE MARKET, MINCHING-LANE, Feb. 10.—SUGAR.—The market has been steady at last Friday's prices. 150 hhds of West India sold in the private contract market. 12,300 bags of Mauritius were offered in public sale; about one-third was bought in; the remainder sold 4s 6d to 5s 6d; gaffney, 5s 6d to 5s 7d. 5,000 bags of Bengal were also offered; 1,500 were bought in; the remainder sold, Benares, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; Madras sold from 4s 2d to 4s 6d; a cargo of Havannah at 3s 6d; and a parcel of unchewed Manila sold at 2s 6d by private contract. The refined market steady. Lamps, fair to fine, 6s to 6½s.

COFFEE.—The large public sales of Mocha went off briskly at an advance of 2s to 3s on the previous public sale, viz., 55 bales, 875 half-bales, and 449 smalls, 7s 6d to 9s 2d. 200 bags low native Ceylon sold 5s to 5½s 6d.

TEA.—The market has been inactive; prices are unaltered. Common congou, 12½d to 13d.

RICE.—3,000 bags Madras sold in public sale at 10s to 10½s 6d, which were about previous rates.

RYE.—150 puncheons good Demerara sold at 2s 9d, which was a decline of 1d per gallon.

INDIGO.—The quarterly sale, consisting of 12,475 chests, commenced to-day; 1,304 chests passed auction, of which 700 were bought in, leaving 700 sold, and 160 withdrawn. The attendance of buyers was thin, and there was a great want of animation in the biddings. Bengal sold, good and fine, 6s 9d to

7s 6d, being last sales prices; middling, 5s 9d to 6s 6d, 3d advance; ordinary and low, 5s to 5s 9d, par to 3d advance. Kurpahs have been in fair demand, and sold from 2d to 3d advance.

COTTON.—400 bales sold at previous rates.

IRON.—Scotch pig quoted 7s to 7½s 6d.

SALTETTER.—700 bags, December shipment, sold to arrive at 4s.

OIL.—Linseed remains quoted at 4s.

TALLOW continues firm at 6s on the spot and March delivery. SOWDERS.—150 cases castor oil sold at 6d to 8d; 10 cases East India white wax bought in at 6s 10s; 80 cases shellac bought in at 5s; 5,900 pieces gutta percha partly sold, at 5d to 1s 1d; 6 tons red sanderswood sold at 7s 10s to 8s.

In other articles no material alteration.

COVENT-GARDEN, Saturday, Feb. 7.—Most things continue to be well supplied, but trade is dull. Prices have altered little since our last report. French saladings continue to be furnished; it consists of endive, lettuce, and barbe du capucin. Good Cornish broccolis may still be had. Forced vegetables comprise beans, sea-kale, asparagus, and rhubarb. Cucumbers may also be obtained. Pineapples and hothouse grapes may still be purchased at last week's quotations. Pears are very dear. Apples also realise high prices. Kent cobs fetch 130s per 100 lbs; Barcelona nuts, 20s per bushel; new Spanish and Brazil, 18s ditto; and chestnuts from 14s to 24s per bushel. Oranges are abundant. Portugal onions fetch from 2s to 3s per dozen. Potatoes have altered little since our last report. Cut flowers consist of orchids, Chinese primulas, cinerarias, gardenias, violets, camellias, mignonette, heaths, and roses.

POTATOES, BOWDOEN AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Feb. 9.—About average supplies of potatoes have come to hand, coastwise and by land carriage, since our last report. The imports have amounted to 203 tons from Rotterdam, 65 tons from Flushing, 85 tons from Temese, and 20 sacks from Belfast. The demand is tolerably firm as follows: York regents, 9s to 10s; Kent and Essex ditto, 10s to 10½s; Lincolns, 8s to 10s; Scotch, 8s to 10s; Irish, 7s to 7½s; foreign, 5s to 7s per ton.

HOPS, BOWDOEN, Monday, Feb. 9.—A moderate trade has been doing since our last report, and the general character of our market continues firm, at fully the currency of last week.

WOOL, CITT, Monday, Feb. 9.—The unusually high prices demanded by holders have checked operations in our market. Very few parcels have changed hands, and the quotations have ruled almost nominal. The supply here is unusually small, and all parties are looking forward with great interest to the approaching public sales of colonial, which will commence on the 26th inst., but at which only about 30,000 bales will be offered.

TALLOW, Monday, Feb. 9.—Our market still continues very firm, and prices are on the advance. To-day P.Y.C. on the spot is quoted at 6s 3d, at which price there are buyers for delivery any period on or before the 31st of March. Town tallow, 6s net cash; rough fat, 3s 6d per 8 lbs.

PARTICULARS.		1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.
Stock		40348	36157	39065	33472	10522
Price of Yellow Candle		43s 9d 6d	43s 9d 6d	43s 9d 6d	43s 9d 6d	43s 9d 6d
Delivery last Week		44s 0d 6d	44s 0d 6d	44s 0d 6d	44s 0d 6d	44s 0d 6d
Arrived from the 1st of June		74727	75658	56851	83010	86663
Arrived last Week		305	1641	717	632	432
Arrived from the 1st of June		74447	90390	61916	59940	80205
Price of Town Tallow		48s 9d 6d	48s 9d 6d	48s 9d 6d	48s 9d 6d	48s 9d 6d

OILS, Monday, Feb. 9.—Lined oil has sold steadily, at 4s per cwt on the spot. Rape is in request; brown at 5s 1d, refined 5s 4d. Copra-put is firm, at 4s 6d to 5s 6d; palm, 4s to 4½s. Gallipoli is worth 6½ to 6¾, pale seed 6½, other sorts 4s 4d. Turpentine is dull, and drooping in price.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—We have no change to notice in the value for flax, and the demand is chiefly confined to small parcels. There is more doing in hemp, at very full prices. Petersburg clean 36½ to 37, half-clean 32½ to 35 per ton. Jute and Coir goods support former terms.

METALS, LONDON, Saturday, Feb. 7.—Scotch pig iron has sold to a moderate extent, at 7s 6d cash. Manufactured parcels have supported previous rates. Tin is dearer; Banca, 14s to 15s; Straits, 14s; and the value of tin plates has an upward tendency. Spelter, on the spot, 30½ to 31; English zinc, 31 to 32½ per ton. Copper, steel, and lead are quite as dear as last week.

HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, Feb. 7.

Market Hides, 5s to 6½s.	0 5 to 0 8 per lb
Ditto 64 72 lbs.	0 5 to 0 8
Ditto 72 80 lbs.	0 5 to 0 8
Ditto 80 88 lbs.	0 5 to 0 8
Ditto 88 96 lbs.	0 5 to 0 8
Ditto 96 104 lbs.	0 5 to 0 8
Horse Hides	0 10 to 0 12 each
Calf Skins, light	4 0 to 5 0
Ditto full	9 0 to 10 0
Polled Sheep	10 0 to 13 0
Kent and Half Bred	8 0 to 10 0
Doys	6 0 to 7 6
Lambs	0 0 to 0 0
Shearings	0 0 to 0 0

COALS, Monday.—A very heavy market, at the rates of Friday-Hetton's, 18s 6d—Lambton's, 18s—Kemp's Grange, 17s 6d—Riddell's, 16s—Gosforth, 16s—Tansfield, 14s 6d—Hartley's, 14s 6d—South Hetton's, 13s 3d—Russell Hetton's, 17s 6d—Brady's, 17s 6d. Fresh arrivals, 54; left from last day, 9; total, 63.

HAY.—SOUTHFIELD, Feb. 10.—A full supply, with very little demand, prices having a downward tendency. Prime meadow hay, 6s to 6½s; superior ditto, 7s to 8s; inferior ditto, 5s to 5½s; rowen, 5s to 5½s; clover, 7s to 10s; second cut, 6s to 6½s; straw, 3s to 3½s.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, Feb. 10.—The market is steady at previous prices. The sales are 10,000 bales, of which 5,000 are for export and on speculation—comprising 1,000 Pernam and Maranham, at 8d to 8½d; 2,000 Bahia, at 7½d to 8d; 3,500 Egyptian, at 8½d to 12d; 1,000 Surat, at 5d to 6d; and 50 Sea Islands, at 15d to 22d per lb.

## Advertisements.

### BELGRAVE HOUSE SEMINARY, BRILL, BUCKS.

Neither trouble nor expense has been spared to render this Establishment worthy of the confidence of Parents. The education imparted is of a thoroughly practicable character, and is eminently calculated to fit the Pupils for becoming useful members of society.

The Young Ladies are treated with maternal kindness, and nothing is omitted that can contribute to their comfort and progress.

TERMS.—TWENTY GUINEAS PER ANNUM, including every expense except Laundry and Books. Provisions unlimited and of the best quality. French, German, Music, and Drawing, when required, taught by well-qualified Masters.

A Prospectus with full particulars will be forwarded on application to Mrs. Clark, Belgrave House, Brill, Bucks.

### EMBROIDERY AND BRAIDING.—Beautiful

Designs on the best Muslin, ready for Working. Children's Dresses, from 2s. 6d. Long Robes, from 5s. 6d. Capes, from 2s. 6d. Collars, Sleeves, Gauntlets, Chemisettes, Handkerchiefs, Nightcaps, Shirt Fronts, Bread, Cheese, and Fish Cloths; D'Oyleys, &c. Borders from one inch to forty. Slippers, Smoking Caps, Mats, Table-covers, on Cloth, Applique, &c. Berlin Wool, Beads, Bugles, &c. A Collar and List of Prices sent Free for Five Stamps. The Trade supplied.

Mrs. WILCOCKSON, 44, Goodge-street, Tottenham-court-road.

## THE CONTINENTAL WINE COMPANY

BIRCHIN-LANE, CORNHILL.

Are enabled by their connection with the principal wine-growers to supply every description of WINE of the finest qualities, at prices for cash far below the average, including their

Alto Douro Ports, at 42s. per dozen.  
Genuine ditto, 34s. per dozen.  
Superior Pale or Gold Sherries, 30s. to 35s. per dozen.  
Orders, containing a remittance, will receive prompt attention.

## BURGUNDY PORT, and SHERRY SACK.

The Prize Wines of the Paris Exhibition of 1855, from the vine-clad hills of the sunny south, recommended by medical men for their purity and freedom from acidity and brandy, are offered to the public as at once the most exquisite and the lowest priced Foreign Wines that the world has seen.

Price 2s. 4d. per Bottle, or 28s. per dozen (bottles, &c., included), to be had, for cash only, of F. W. SELLERS, 1, Chapel-place, Cavendish-square; 147, Oxford-street. Orders received at 37, Crutched-friars.

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